

THE ATHENÆUM.

No. 27. MARCH 1st, 1809.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Athenæum.

REMARKS ON THE PRINCIPLE OF LOYALTY.

IN this time of "fearful change" there are few speculations relative to the political state of the world more curious and interesting than those connected with the rise and fall of so many royal dynasties. We have commonly viewed these events through the dim medium of history; but we now see them passing before our eyes, and behold the whole process of elevation and depression without any concealment of the springs by which the pageantry is moved. We are let into the secret of the manufacture (if such a term may be allowed) of those exalted personages upon whom so much of the fate of mankind depends, and the expeditious simplicity of it cannot but have occasioned surprize. The last addition to the list of European kings, previous to these revolutionary times, was that of the electors of Brandenburg, promoted to the crown of Prussia; and what a length of political intrigue was necessary to carry it into effect! At present nothing more seems requisite than the "*Je le veux*" of one individual, announced in an article of a treaty which he has dictated. During the career of victory it is readily conceivable how this may be done. He who by his strong arm has made himself an emperor, may make brothers or favourites kings, and he may support them in their thrones as long as his arm and its strength subsist. But in order to give a firm and lasting establishment to the new state of things, this empire of force must be succeeded by an empire of opinion; for the former is perpetually liable to change hands unless supported by the latter. It is opinion alone that can secure the quiet transmission of authority from one to another in a particular line, without regard to the personal qualities of the successor, which is the essence of hereditary monarchy; and opinion is a thing over which mere force has a very limited influence.

The most powerful aid in this point is to be derived from a principle which, though known in its operation in all monarchies, has not, as far as I am acquainted, a specific name in any language but the English. This is *loyalty*, a word signifying with us exclusively a passionate attachment to the person of the existing monarch, as such. How it has happened to be thus consecrated to royal use in a country generally thought less obsequious to kings than many others, I have not been able to discover; but certain it is that the same term as differently inflected in different European dialects (*loyauté, lealtá, &c.*) has the more enlarged signification of frank, honest, and of good faith. Leaving, however, this verbal discussion, it may be worth while to bestow some consideration on the origin and nature of this passion, which acts so important a part as the "cheap defence" of thrones.

A person raised by power above the rest of mankind may at first be regarded with jealousy and aversion; but if he be successful in maintaining his station, it throws about him a kind of nimbus of grandeur which soon causes him to be looked upon with awe and reverence; and these feelings readily slide into those of attachment and devotion. The simple and ignorant, who are placed at a distance from the throne, come to regard him as the source of all those blessings which they enjoy in the social institution of which he is the head; while the ambitious and designing, regarding him as the fountain of honour and emolument, treat him with all the incense of adulation, to gain his favour, and enhance his consequence. By such a process, in the origin of all monarchical governments, the spirit of loyalty has been created, and the influence of courts has been successfully employed to raise it to the first rank among political virtues. From the remotest times the East has been peculiarly distinguished for its devotion to the person of its sovereigns; and we find Virgil in his *Georgics* making the oriental passion of loyalty a comparison for the ardent attachment of bees to their king. He himself, however, and other poets of the age, were as extravagant in adulation of Augustus as if they had been born the subjects of an eastern despot; and the long and prosperous reign of that emperor, doubtless, laid the foundation of that spirit of loyalty which succeeded to Roman liberty during the *Cæsarian* dynasty, though its objects were some of the most contemptible and detestable of mankind. Suetonius has left us a curious picture of one of the early Roman loyalists in the person of Lucius Vitellius, father of the emperor of that name. He, it seems, was the first who paid divine adoration to that paragon of princes, Caligula, not presuming to approach him but with his head veiled, and falling prostrate at his feet. When Claudius succeeded to the throne, he humbly requested of the virtuous Messalina that she would permit him to take off her slipper, and having obtained this favour (a very moderate one from that lady) he constantly carried it about with him between his toga and his tunic, sometimes devoutly kissing it. He paid his court to the all-powerful freedmen of that reign, Narcissus
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and Pallas, by placing their golden images among his household gods. When Claudius celebrated the *secular* games, Vitellius, paying his devoirs, gravely wished him *many* celebrations of the like kind. His loyalty, though somewhat peculiar, was thought so meritorious, that his remains were honoured by the senate with a public funeral, and his statue was erected before the rostra, with the inscription "Of unshaken Piety towards his Prince." The merit of this piety was doubtless estimated at an inverse ratio of that of its object.

The frequent changes of the imperial line after the first Cæsars, much impaired the spirit of Roman loyalty, though it was apt to revive upon a few instances of lineal succession; and Domitian, the third emperor of his family, received from Statius, Martial, and other poets, more exquisite adulation than almost any of his predecessors had done. The line of Constantine also was treated with a profusion of loyal incense, the flavour of which was heightened by the gratitude of a religious party, and the flowers of Grecian rhetoric.

The European kingdoms which were formed upon the dissolution of the Roman empire, partook at different periods of very different degrees of the loyal spirit. The feudal system was little favourable to it, as it often raised the vassal to a competition with his lord, and rendered the duty of allegiance in inferiors obscure and ambiguous. It could not have been active with the barons of Arragon, when, in swearing allegiance to their sovereign, they used the remarkable form, "We, who are each of us as good, and who are altogether more powerful, than you," &c. In process of time, however, as crowns acquired strength, and obtained the support of civil and religious establishments, the principle of loyalty was revived in full vigour, and even with additional authority. It was fortified by the two great bulwarks of honour and religion: the first inculcated it as the virtue characteristic of a gentleman; the second, as a duty only one degree inferior to piety towards the Supreme Being. In this country it seems to have attained its height in the reign of Elizabeth, when it was enforced by a sort of chivalrous devotion to a female sovereign. Party made it also triumphant under Charles II., at the latter end of whose reign it appears to have laid every other public principle at its feet. It naturally declined for a time after every deviation from the ordinary course of regal succession, and recovered itself with the advance of the new line to maturity.

It is the great advantage of this principle, as conducing to the stability of crowns, that it attaches itself to the wearer of the crown simply as such, and independently of his personal qualities. Were this otherwise, its operation would often be suspended when most needed; that is, when the weakness or vices of the possessor of the crown caused it to totter on his head. Indeed, the generous attachment of the true loyalist cannot be too much admired, who requires nothing but the name of king to excite his enthusiastic devotion, and gives implicit credit to the owner of it for every virtue under heaven.

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He can even create to himself an object of reverence in a child in the cradle.

See how the venerable infant lies
In early pomp; how thro' the mother's eyes
The father's soul, with an undaunted view
Looks out, and takes our homage as his due;

says Dryden, in complimenting the birth of that child of promise, whom nothing but the infatuated bigotry of his father could have frustrated of his succession.

Now, that such a support to the modern thrones which we have seen erected will be extremely desirable, is obvious; and indeed it can scarcely be conceived that they can be firmly established without it. The Great Man of the age, by his commanding talents and the splendour of his victories, has accumulated around him so much personal admiration, that he may want no artificial title to the reverence and submission of his people; but there is no reason to suppose that the family lines of sovereigns whom he has placed on different thrones, will display such a superiority to the dynasties they have expelled, as to turn the current of loyalty in their favour. Civilized Europe has not for ages seen men raised to monarchy from the lower ranks of society; for though regular hereditary descent has in various instances been deviated from, the family succession has still been preserved. In the case of the Cromwells, the change from an Oliver to a Richard at once overturned the whole fabric of their power. When the Roman empire became the prize of the sword, it was perfectly in the order of things, that what one sword had given, a stronger should take away and appropriate; and the people at length became entirely indifferent to the lineage of their temporary masters. In what period of time can it be supposed that a phlegmatic Dutch republican will catch the ardour of loyalty towards king Louis and his posterity: or that a Westphalian, profoundly versed in the genealogies of German princes, and bred in reverential respect for quarterings of nobility, will pay internal homage to the royal house of Jerome? There is, doubtless, no reason in nature why Bonapartes may not become what Bourbons and Nassaus have been; but the means by which it is to be brought about are not easily assignable. Loyalty must long fluctuate between past and present, before it proceeds in its usual train; and there is perhaps more reason to apprehend, that during the confusions and changes of the time, the principle may lose its strength with respect to the remaining ancient families, than to believe that it will be readily transferred to new ones. The longer the struggle continues, the greater will be this danger; for, till the empire of force is past, that of opinion cannot resume its vigour.

POLITES.

FURTHER ACCOUNT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

IN a former communication I made some observations on the original creation and ancient state of the two universities at Aberdeen, commonly known by the name of the King's and Marischal colleges. As you have been pleased to think my remarks worthy of insertion in your interesting miscellany, I now fulfil my promise of enlarging them by some memoranda on the present state of these northern seminaries of learning. The very remoteness of their situation tends of itself to annex an importance to these universities, on which is devolved the literary instruction of by far the largest portion of Scotland in point of geographical extent, though it be a portion more prolific in sheep, in deer, and in moor-game, than in inhabitants. The meliorating influence, however, of an improved system of cultivation has for some time been sensibly felt in this hyperborean portion of our island; and, by adding to its wealth and comfort, has increased the desire of liberal knowledge, and materially augmented the numbers of those who annually resort to the universities of Aberdeen for the benefit of education.

In respect to external appearance, the university of King's-college has greatly the advantage of its sister seminary, founded by Earl Marischal, in the new town. The latter has exactly the aspect of a long used manufactory, being a monotonous pile of high and unornamented buildings, somewhat dirty and smoky without; the former consists of a spacious square court, with handsome cloisters to the south, the public halls and class rooms to the east, the chapel, library, and great spire to the north, and a breast wall, iron gate, and iron railing to the east. This last side of the square, however, which forms the front of the whole, and has been lately renewed, is executed in too light and modern a taste to harmonize with the general character of the building. This is, on the whole, decidedly gothic, though the cloisters on the south are in the modern style of architecture, and have running along them within the court a very neat range of circularly-arched pillars, affording a fine sheltered walk in dirty weather.

But the most conspicuous ornament of King's-college is its great spire, which continues in excellent preservation. It is a square tower, vaulted by a double cross arch, on which rests an imperial crown, correctly executed in free-stone, being supported by eight stone pillars, and surmounted by a globe and cross. In the building originally erected by Elphinstone, the founder of the university, there was a spire built according to the same model; but in the year 1631 it was thrown down by a storm, and replaced by the present spire, which is supposed to be more elegant and stately than its predecessor. It is a very striking and pleasing object, and in some measure unique in its style of architecture.

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The chapel is in the most ancient part of the structure. It contains some fine remains of carved wainscot, on which no attention or care is now bestowed; but which, at the time of the Scottish reformation, were thought worthy of a sharp struggle by the principal who then presided in the college. The Mearnshire barons of the covenanting faction had stripped the Aberdeen cathedral of its roof and bells, and were proceeding to a like dilapidation of the adjacent seat of learning, when the principal armed his people, and made a successful stand against these depredators. One half of this chapel is now converted into the public library of the university, the other continues to be employed as a place of religious worship; for the students assemble in it to prayers every morning during the continuance of the college term. In it lie buried the founder of the university, over whose remains is placed a blue marble slab, without any inscription; and Mr. Henry Scougal, son of one of the protestant bishops of Aberdeen, who appears to have been a young man of very extraordinary accomplishments. He died in his 28th year, yet so highly was he esteemed for his learning and piety, that he had been four years regent in King's-college, one year minister at the church of Austerless, and four years professor of divinity in the college, to which office he was called from his parochial charge. The following inscription is fixed in the wall over the place where he lies interred:

Memoriæ Sacrum

Henricus Scougal, reverendi in Christo patris, Patricii episcopi Aberdonensis, filius: philosophiæ in hæc academia regia per quadriennium totidemque annis ibidem theologiæ professor: ecclesiæ in Auchterless uno anno interstite pastor. Multa in tam brevissimo curriculo didicit, præstitit, docuit. Cæli avidus & cælo maturus obiit Anno Dom. 1678. Ætatis suæ 28. Et hic exuvias mortalitatis posuit.

This accomplished scholar was the author of a much-esteemed practical treatise, entitled, "The Life of God in the Soul of Man; or, the Nature and Excellency of the Christian Religion:" first printed without the author's name, which his modesty studiously concealed, by bishop Burnet, about the year 1677. It went through several subsequent editions, and was reprinted in 1726, under the patronage of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, with the addition of nine discourses on important subjects, by the same author. It is no less remarkable for sound sense and fervent piety, than for the purity of style with which it is written—a quality then very rarely to be found in the performances of authors from the northern part of the island.

The library of King's-college is a spacious and lofty apartment, embellished with some of the ancient carvings of the chapel, and with a handsome geometrical stair-case, forming the access to its galleries. The elevated roof of the ancient chapel gives it rather a majestic appearance:

pearance; but it is said that Dr. Johnson, when he visited the Aberdeen universities, was inspired with a religious horror on beholding the sanctity of a place of worship contaminated by becoming the depository of volumes of profane literature. "How can you, gentlemen," said he to the professors, "allow your chapel to be polluted by b—dy books?" "B—dy books?" repeated these learned men, highly indignant at the imputation. "What!" exclaimed the Rambler, "have you not got Aristophanes?"

The Marischall-college is situated where formerly stood the cloisters of the Franciscan or Grey friars, which were presented by the town of Aberdeen to the founder of this seminary as a suitable accommodation for the members of his new institution. Very little, however, now remains of the Franciscan monastery, except the church, of which the walls, with a fine gothic window, are still entire. This place of worship has been repaired by the corporation of the burgh, by whom also a clergyman is appointed to preach in it regularly, but without any other parochial duty. The monastery having become ruinous, the greater part of the present buildings of the college was constructed about 1676, and an additional wing in 1739; but, as before mentioned, they are by no means remarkable either for elegance or regularity. The principal structure contains a public school for morning prayers during the college session; over which is a hall of the same dimensions, and over this, the library also of the same length and breadth, but low in the roof and ill lighted, and consequently very gloomy. It is, however, respectably stocked with books, as is also the library of King's-college. Both together may contain nearly twenty thousand volumes. With manuscripts they are but scantily stocked; some, however, of considerable beauty and value are exhibited, particularly, illuminated manuscripts from the East, and popish missals, adorned with miniature paintings in high preservation. In each college there is a museum of specimens in the various departments of natural history, and a collection of mathematical instruments and machinery for illustrating the different departments of experimental philosophy. The apparatus of Marischall-college is remarkably complete and elegantly constructed. Here also is an observatory supplied with an astronomical quadrant, transit telescope, equatorial, &c.

The manner of teaching, and subjects taught, are nearly the same at both colleges. The common curriculum, or philosophical course, after which a student becomes entitled to offer himself as a candidate for the degree of Master of Arts, is of four years duration, or rather of four terms or sessions, each five months in length. During the first session, he studies Greek; during the next, mathematics and history, natural and civil; during the third, natural philosophy; and during the fourth, moral philosophy and the abstract sciences, including logic and rhetoric. His attention is also occasionally directed to the Greek and Latin classics, and to the science of mathematics, during the conclusive years of his course. To compensate for the shortness of the
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annual term of study, the professors devote a more than usual portion of each day to their several departments. Four in each college attend their classes during three hours of each lecturing day, and even one hour on Sunday, when some subject connected with natural theology is introduced. These professors are known by the name of regents, and the subjects which they teach form the most essential part of the philosophical course.

The degree of Master of Arts is the only philosophical laureatship that is now called for in the universities; those of Bachelor and Licentiate having long fallen into disuse. The candidates for this honour are subjected to a previous examination, and sometimes receive the degree publicly, on which occasion they deliver an oration on some philosophical subject, an evident remain of the ancient logical thesis. To enable your readers to judge of the improvement which the system of education at these universities has undergone in the course of something more than a century, I shall subjoin an extract from an historical memoir written about the year 1680, under the eye of principal Middleton, of King's-college.

“Every Michaelmass the masters convene, after the ending of the ten weeks vacation, and a program is affixed on the college gates, inviting young scholars to come and dispute for a burse (which is their maintenance at the college). To these are prescribed exercises or themes to make, then Latin authors in prose and verse to expound; and the first four (for so many bursaries are void at every commencement) who are reckoned to be the best scholars, are preferred. In October the students begin to convene. They wear a red or scarlet gown, with hanging sleeves; but those who are bursars, a black gown, with a girdle. Their time of continuing at the university is four years. They are ranked into four classes. To those of the first is taught the Greek language. The students of the second class learn logic and metaphysics. Those of the third class, who at the year's end are Bachelors of Arts, learn ethics and general physics. The fourth and highest class completes their course with special physics and mathematics. The time of the commencement of Master of Arts is in July. Before the day appointed, those who are to receive the degree publish their theses, inviting all learned men and scholars to come and dispute.”

VIATOR.

THE PATRICIAN DANCE OF AUGSBURG.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

ON a former occasion your readers were presented with a sketch of the manners and diversions of the Augsburgers in the sixteenth century. The limits I had then prescribed myself prevented
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my entering into many minute details, which, taken abstractedly, might have contributed to the further illustration of the subject. With this view, therefore, I shall now proceed to a description of the "*Geschlechter Tanz*,"* or Patrician Dance, which I believe to have been peculiar in former times to the wealthy citizens of Augsburg: and in doing this, I would fain persuade myself that I am rendering no unacceptable service to those who delight in tracing the motley forms which human nature has assumed, or the distortions to which it has been subjected from the first dawnings of civilization to the present maturity of refinement.

The chief amusements to which the patricians of Augsburg were devoted, consisted in banquets and dances; the latter being known by the name of the "*Geschlechter, or Patrician dances*." They were generally held twice a year, especially in Lent, or were given in honour of some stranger of distinguished rank. A few days before these dances were to take place, several of the junior patricians were selected to invite the whole of their own corporation and the resident nobility. A peculiar dress was appointed for those to whom the ceremony of invitation was entrusted; on one occasion eleven of them proceeded on their mission, habited in this fashion: "their pourpoints were of crimson atlas; their hose of scarlet cloth, interwoven with rich scarlet taffety, and bordered with silk cord of like colour; a short woollen mantle of the same hue hung over their shoulders, was left open on the right side, and closed round the waist by a silk scarlet cord: whilst on their heads they wore green bandeaus, enriched with a garland of gold." Upon this invitation, the company assembled to dinner at the great hall, and afterwards adjourned to the dancing saloon.

If we may judge from old paintings, the habits of both sexes at the patrician dances were a sort of masquerade dress. A representation of one of these dances is still preserved in the Patricians' hall, and gives us a high idea of the splendour and brilliancy of the costume observed on those occasions. The women then wore veils, which did not, however, conceal their faces; but this not being permitted to the younger of the fair sex, in its stead the more graceful embellishment of a light hat was substituted. Their draperies were carefully and profusely adorned with rings and chains of gold, as well as diamonds and pearls.

The dances themselves appear to have resembled the polonaises of our days; for the company was distributed into pairs, and danced in a long row to a drawling sort of tune, which issued from the mouths of horns and trumpets.

Dancing is allowed to have been carried to great perfection by the ladies of Augsburg in old times, so much so, indeed, that emperors and kings, especially Maximilian the First, made it a subject of their princely admiration. It is worthy of remark, too (and why not

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* This is called to the present hour, "*Die Geschlechter Stube*."

of imitation?) that these ladies were at the same time celebrated for the modesty, and decorum, as well as the gracefulness, of their demeanour in dancing. These are recorded in the following stanza of a national and contemporary poet :

With admiration all survey
The grace that Augsburg's fair display:
Their beauty too we fondly prize,
Their modesty and down-cast eyes :
Thus, decked with fashion's rarest care,
All hail them " fairest of the fair !"
At home, abroad, or in the dance,
They're famed for chastest elegance.

Fools, also, who contributed chiefly to the merriment of the banquet, took a part in these dances. Many of their names are found inscribed on old paintings, and, amongst others, we find Guntz or Lung von der Rosen, jester to Maximilian the Second, whose loyalty, integrity, and independent spirit were worthy of a nobler office.*

The earliest chroniclers of Augsburg mention these dances: in 1303 they were given in honour of the emperor Albert and his consort, and again in 1418, when the imperial Sigismund distributed gold rings among the patrician dames. The latest occurrence of this dance was in the year 1577; but we are not told why it was thenceforward discontinued, though we may safely ascribe it to the misfortunes and disasters in which religious frenzy involved the Augsburgers soon after. The great hall fell to ruins; and being demolished in 1632, was never rebuilt.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

S.

* Vide p. 109 of the Athenæum for January last.

BIRD-CATCHING IN THE FEROE ISLANDS.

One great source of subsistence to these islanders are the sea-fowl which abound on the coast, and which are caught either by dragging them out of their holes, or by another method, for which an instrument called a bird-pole is employed.

The puffin (*alca arctica*) builds its nest partly in those large heaps of stones which have fallen down from the hills, and which lie on the borders of the small creeks, or in the fissures of the rocks near the surface of the sea, and partly in holes which are found in the naked rocks between their harder strata. When the fowler approaches these nests, he thrusts his hand into them, and the fowls, which lay hold of his fingers with their bills, bite so fast, that he is able to pull them out;

out; or they are dragged from these holes by means of a fish-hook fastened to the end of a short stick. This labour begins in the middle of May, and is continued a fortnight.

When the birds have hatched their young, and the latter have taken flight, the fowlers begin in the month of July what is called *steiningen*, and for which a particular kind of apparatus is necessary. The principal parts of it are, 1st, a round pole made of fir, ten or twelve feet in length, and an inch and a half in thickness at the lower end, but only one inch at the other; 2d, a piece of horn, generally of ram's horn, a little crooked, about eight inches in length and an inch and a half in breadth, having in it four square holes, one in the middle and one at each end; 3d, two arms, formed of two small rods four feet in length and half an inch in thickness; the pole is fitted into the middle hole of the piece of horn, the concavity of which is turned downwards, and the rods are inserted in the holes at the extremities of it, but in such a manner that they touch the pole beneath, and are made fast to it by means of twine tied round them; when properly fixed, these rods represent at the end of the pole the prongs of a fork, but they are bent a little inwards, and retained in that position by a piece of strong packthread, so that they stand at the distance of about eighteen inches from each other; on these prongs or arms is placed a net, the meshes of which are two inches in width; it is made either of hempen or grey woollen thread, is pretty large, and hangs like a bag, which projects a foot beyond the arms. The lower extremity of the pole is strengthened by an iron ring, and furnished with a spike or small three-pronged fork, in order that the fowler may be enabled to direct his course by sticking it fast in the projecting rocks when suspended by a rope, and even to clamber up from one place to another.

When the fowler goes out, he is rowed about at the bottom of the rocks where the fowls sit, and with great dexterity casts his net over them. The fowls immediately push their necks through the meshes, in order to get into the water; but the fowler, by means of the pole, inverts the net, and the fowls remain suspended in it; and even if they were able to fly up, they never attempt it, but remain hanging with their heads through the meshes towards the water, considering that element as their only place of shelter. But by this method fowls are caught only on a small scale; to catch them on a more extended one, it is necessary to ascend to a considerable height in the rocks; and it is really astonishing to see to what heights the fowlers will proceed, and to what dangers they expose themselves in this occupation. On these occasions two men go out in company, and both of them make themselves fast to a rope, but in such a manner that there is the distance of eight or ten fathoms between them. The first man is assisted by the second to ascend the rock, and for this purpose the latter employs a pole twenty-four feet in length, having at its extremity an iron hook, which is made fast in the waistband of his breeches, or in a rope tied about his middle, or, what is more common, a piece of board is fixed to the end of the pole on which the climber sits, and when

when he has got a firm footing, he assists his companion to get up by means of the rope fastened round both their bodies; but they both carry their fowling-poles along with them. In this manner the second assists the first to clamber up by the help of his pole, and the first helps the other by means of the rope from one projection to another; but when they have a dangerous place to ascend, before they get to parts frequented by the fowls, the first must have a secure place of rest, that he may be able to support the other in case he should be so unfortunate as to fall. It frequently happens, however, that the one in his fall pulls down the other, so that they both become a sacrifice to their temerity. In these almost inaccessible places, and particularly such as are seldom visited by man, they find the fowls so tame that they can lay hold of them with their hands; but where the fowls are shy, they cast their net over them with their fowling-pole, and at one throw, and in one hole, will sometimes catch from ten to twenty fowls.

When the rocks are so high and steep that it is impossible to climb up them, it then becomes necessary that the fowlers should descend from the top. This is done in two ways: A rope, three inches thick and a hundred fathoms in length, is made fast at one end around the fowler's middle; a broad woollen band, which passes round his thighs, is fastened also to the rope; and by these means he can sit more at his ease, and continue his labour for several hours. The rope is held fast by six men, who let the fowler, with his fowling-pole in his hand, glide down the rock; and to prevent the rope from being cut by the hard edges of the rock, a piece of smooth wood is placed below it, in order to glide upon; but as the men who hold the rope cannot see when the fowler has got to the place where the fowls are, they have also a small line, one end of which is bound round the fowler's body, and by pulling this line he gives notice to the men when to lower the rope, when to stop it, and when to draw it up. The fowler directs his course with his fowling-pole until he reaches the projection where the fowls construct their nests; here he looses the rope from his body, and makes it fast to a stone, to prevent it from escaping him, and then he goes round catching the fowls with his hands, or casts the net over them in the manner already described; or he places himself on some projecting shelf which the fowls fly past, and it is here that he displays his dexterity in the use of his fowling-pole in what is called *fleining*. The afternoon or calm weather is the time chosen for this purpose; but in particular the wind must blow towards the rock, because in that case the puffin approaches nearest to the land. When the fowls come so near the fowler that he can reach them with his pole, he raises it towards them, and is pretty certain of catching one in his net; and to prevent the fowl from disengaging itself, he turns the pole a little round, so that one of its arms stands upwards and the other downwards; by these means the fowl hangs in the pocket of the net, below one of the arms, and is thus inclosed that it cannot get out; but as the fowls are continually flying by, great speed and dexterity

terity are requisite. At each stroke the fowler in general catches one, and sometimes two or three; and in one afternoon a man in this manner will catch two, three, and even four hundred. Sometimes the fowler undertakes this labour while he is suspended by the rope. But there are some cavities where the fowls build their nests which recede so far from the perpendicular direction of the rock, that the fowler, when he descends to them by help of the rope, hangs so far from them in consequence of the projecting shelf, as to be at the distance of several fathoms from the holes where the fowls reside. In this case he must throw himself so far out from the rock, by means of his pole, as to be able to swing with the rope under the shelf to the proposed place, and to secure a footing. On such occasions he can without help give himself a swing to the distance of thirty or forty feet; but if the cavity proceeds farther into the rock, so that a very great swing is necessary to reach it, he fastens a small line to the bottom of the suspending rope on which he sits, and a man in a boat at the bottom of the rock, who holds the other end of this small line, can by pulling it make him swing to the distance of a hundred or a hundred and twenty feet.

The fowls when caught are killed by twisting their necks; they are then bound together in bunches, and either drawn up to the summit of the rock, or cast into the sea, where they are picked up by people in boats, who are stationed below for that purpose.

Some rocks are divided into upper and lower; and in these the fowler must both ascend and be let down from the summit.

Some of these rocks are called *shakkur*, that is, lesser rocks, which rise up towards the high rocks, and are either half or entirely separated from them; but they are so flat on the top, that fowls can be caught on them, and that they afford pasture to sheep when carried thither. When the fowler in the beginning of summer has been assisted to climb to the top of one of these rocks, he makes fast the noose of a small rope, which he carries with him, to some sharp projection, and can then, without any assistance, descend by suffering himself to glide down the rope. If it be necessary that the rock should be often visited in the course of the season, the rope is left suspended, so that by means of it a man can ascend and descend at any time; but the fowler, before he descends for the last time, places the noose so near the extremity of the projection, that when he has got to the bottom he can by a sudden jerk disengage the rope and carry it with him; but if he is not able to accomplish this, he is bold enough, though he does not know but another jerk might have cast the rope loose, to ascend fifty, sixty, or more feet, in order to place the noose on the very extremity of the projection, and then to slip down by it in that dangerous situation.

This occupation is of great importance to the inhabitants; for it supplies them with a considerable part of their subsistence. In one excursion four thousand fowls may be caught, according as the rock is more or less frequented by them, and according as it is more or less accessible:

accessible: on this account the inhabitants expose themselves to so great risk; nay, in one of the islands, namely, Skuoe, the people live chiefly on the fowls which they catch in this manner.

From what has been said of this occupation, it is evident that it requires both practice and courage; for the accidents to which the fowlers are exposed are very numerous: the rope by which the two men are bound together may be weaker than supposed; in lowering them down by the rope large fragments of stone are often detached from the rocks and fall down, so that they sometimes narrowly escape destruction; a small projection on which the fowler rests his foot, or which he lays hold of with his hands, may be either loose, or break with the weight—and yet these people encounter all these dangers with the utmost intrepidity. The following instance of such intrepidity, or rather temerity, I cannot here help relating. In Fugleoe is a place formed by the projection of a rock, which is not difficult of access, but though it is at first broad and convenient for a person to stand upon, it becomes afterwards narrower and narrower, till it at length ends in a few knobs, on which it is hardly possible to fix one's toes. About twelve feet farther the same projection is continued, but much broader, and is an excellent station for catching fowls. Where this projection breaks off, nature has formed in the rock, at the distance of two feet higher, a perpendicular projection, about nine inches in breadth. When the fowler arrives at the chasm, he places his pole on the higher projection, and clasping it in his arms, creeps over it to get at the proper station. Here fowls are caught in abundance; but to convey them from the rock, when there is no boat below to receive them, he suspends them from his neck, or places them on his head, and in this manner creeps back with his burden to the first projection. As he can carry only a few fowls at a time, he is obliged to perform this passage the oftener. At each time he perceives the sea beneath him at the distance of a hundred fathoms; and that he may have the fewer times to pass and repass, he frequently places such a heavy burden on his back that he is in great danger of losing his equilibrium and of falling from the projection, which is his only support. What adds still to the risk is, that some of the stones are loose and moveable.

The method employed at Drangoe, in Iceland, for catching sea-fowl by means of gins fastened to boards, which are suffered to float on the sea, has been introduced into Feroe; but the trials made of it have not succeeded according to expectation. This method is as follows: From eighty to a hundred and fifty small holes are bored in a board made of hard wood, about four feet in length and fifteen inches in breadth, in which gins of horses' hair are fastened. Five such boards are bound together, at the distance of ten feet from each other, with cords made also of horses' hair; and to the first board is attached five buoys, in order that the whole apparatus may float in the water. To the middle board is made fast a decoy fowl, to entice the others; and in this manner above twenty fowls may be caught on each board.

board. Each boat has five implements of this kind, which together are called *nederstode*.

The objections made to this method are, that the fowls when caught derange the gins with their fluttering; and that though from twenty to thirty fowls may be caught by it in a day, they do not reward the labour of rowing a mile or more to procure them.

The fowls when caught are partly eaten fresh and partly salted, or hung up to dry in the air; because, when prepared in this manner, they form, in places where they abound, a good article of winter provision for the inhabitants.

(To be continued.)

MAXIMS OF FRUGALITY VINDICATED.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

IN a late publication, which its merits will probably cause to be much read, I was concerned to see some severe strictures upon that spirit of frugality which the maxims of Poor Richard are supposed to have rendered national in the United States of America. Prejudices of more than one kind might be pointed out as having suggested this censure, which was the less to have been expected, as the author is of a country, among the laudable qualities of which, economy is not the least conspicuous. As I think, under our present circumstances, there are few virtues the cultivation of which is more desirable, I shall request the insertion of a few remarks on the subject in your respectable miscellany.

The scope of the maxims in question is chiefly to inculcate the principle that frugality is the chief means of securing personal independence; and I would ask what possession is equally valuable to a liberal mind? It is the foundation of every thing honourable and manly in social and political life—the essential without which beneficence is a meteor, and patriotism a vapour. This independence no measure of fortune can render permanent, because wants and wishes may rise above any such measure: nothing can produce this effect but the habit of reducing our desires within the limits, whatever they may be, of probable acquisition. Many of the aphorisms delivered under the name of Poor Richard are truly philosophical, and would not be disowned by the most eminent sages of antiquity. Their principle is the very reverse of that grasping avarice which is the bane of all virtue, public and private—it is that of moderation and self-government. Their purpose, indeed, is to make a man hold his head up in society among his fellows; not, however, with the feeling called *purse-pride*, resulting from conscious superiority of wealth, but with that of the independence which every one may attain who can live within the income

come his industry can command. They are especially levelled against the vice (as it may justly be termed) of running in debt, that destructive and debasing propensity which lowers the whole tone of the mind, and converts a free man into a slave. Nothing can be more pithy than one of Richard's sentences on this subject, "Lying rides upon Debt's back." Who, in fact, more habitually violates truth than the debtor, who is obliged to provide himself with a false excuse for every creditor whom he may meet? What can be more disgraceful than the continual practice of paltry shifts to elude just demands?—how impossible that they should not contaminate that principle of honour which is the basis of every thing noble in public and private life! How contrary, likewise, to all rational ideas of benevolence is it, to withhold from humble industry that just compensation for its services by which life with its moderate comforts is to be sustained! A failure of justice in this point is to be atoned by no degree of that splendid profusion which is miscalled charity or generosity—names it can never deserve when exercised at another's expence.

Of all the portraitures in works of fiction, the most meritorious in design, as well as one of the happiest in execution, has always appeared to me to be that of *Harrel* in the novel of "*Cecilia*." Thoughtless extravagance had so commonly been allied by writers of novels and comedies with splendid and amiable qualities of the head and heart, that by the readers of such compositions it had come almost to be ranked among virtues, to the infinite detriment of domestic morals. It was reserved for Miss Burney to shew, by well-contrived scenes evidently copied from the life, that its natural concomitants are meanness, selfishness, and the sacrifice of every social duty. What, indeed, can be more essentially selfish than the resolution to indulge every capricious fancy or intemperate desire of our own, regardless of the privations imposed on others by such indulgence?

To return to the maxims of Poor Richard—If the American character have taken a bias from them (which, considering their pointed energy, I think not improbable) it has not been that of the boundless commercial speculation in which their mercantile citizens have so deeply engaged, but that of the steady industry and firm endurance of wants and hardships which enable their settlers to convert the howling wilderness into scenes of culture and domestic comfort. It is also that moral discipline which at this day enables them to sustain an almost unparalleled measure of self-denial, of which I do not pretend to appreciate the policy, but which I cannot help respecting as an extraordinary proof of national resolution. When our day of severe trial shall arrive, though I have no doubt of our spirit to do and to suffer whatever may be requisite in the way of active exertion, yet I confess I have my fears of our capacity to sustain privations for which no previous habits of frugality and moderate use of the good things of life have prepared us.

Yours, &c.

PRISCUS.

EXTRACTS FROM A MANUSCRIPT JOURNAL OF A VOYAGE
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND ADRIATIC.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

I SEND you the following extracts for the Athenæum, if you think them worthy of insertion. The observations were originally written on board one of the ships of the Russian squadron lately in the Tagus, as the substance of a correspondence with a friend in England, which I mention as an apology for the manner the writer has adopted of communicating his remarks, &c.

Yours, &c.

O. R.

Sailed from Gibraltar on the 28th (Dec. 1805). We have had an almost continued calm since; but the fineness of the weather, and a magnificent view of the lofty mountains of Granada, on the coast of Spain, reconcile me in some measure to the slowness of our movements. The sky is beautifully serene, the surface of the water quite placid, at the same time the tops of the mountains covered with snow, present us with a spectacle both pleasing and singular, contrasted with the heat of the weather which we now feel (therm. 66° in the shade). During the night of the 30th fell in with Lord Collingwood's fleet, now cruising towards the Straits. A lovely moonlight afforded us an opportunity of seeing this lately victorious fleet, a sight the more interesting as our lamented Nelson and Trafalgar still engaged some portion of our daily conversation.

On the morning of the 8th of January, 1806, we hove in sight of the island of Sardinia, and the wind continuing favourable, arrived off the Gulf of Cagliari early in the afternoon. I may here remark, that those who have never been at sea can form no idea of the pleasure experienced from the rapid movement of a ship along a strange coast: the scene changing almost momentarily, and the objects softened by the distance through which they are seen, create in the imagination a species of illusion, which we hope in vain to find realized. Scarcely a hill or a valley appeared but I wished myself transported there; much in the same frame of mind as, when a boy, I have longed to sit on the edge of every cloud I saw gilded by the rays of the setting sun.

By signal we were given to understand that we should touch at Cagliari, and fully expected to be soon at anchor; however, to our great mortification, the wind suddenly changed, and we were obliged to work our way for two days before we reached our anchorage. The appearance of the city is extremely beautiful from the bay; but after waiting with anxious expectation four or five days for an opportunity

of taking a nearer inspection of it, I found the old saying, that, "appearances are deceitful," abundantly verified in this instance.

Never did I see such a scene of gaudy misery; for, notwithstanding the poverty of the inhabitants, they still attempt to exhibit an appearance of magnificence, which only exposes in more glaring colours the wretchedness they may wish to conceal. We had no sooner landed from our boat than we were completely surrounded by a crowd of noisy beggars, who pestered us with offers of service, and when arrived at the market-place, we were assailed on all sides by fellows bawling out with all their might to know if the "*Signori Capitani*" wanted any oranges or eggs! and, really, these were the only important articles of food, besides bread and *chesnuts*, which their market appeared to contain. The following fact will, perhaps, give you a still better notion of the state of the market here. An officer, who has the charge of our mess, wished to lay in some live stock for the supply of our table. He with difficulty got some beef, after dancing attendance for several days on the officer of police; he picked up a pig, *by chance*, in the market, but he positively could get no fowls without applying to the Russian consul, who procured him a dozen *officially*!

The city of Cagliari is built on the side of a hill, from the top of which we have a prospect by no means contemptible; for, though the country around appears uncultivated, the fine bay beneath and the shore to the west is highly picturesque and pleasing. The streets are extremely narrow and wretchedly paved, the houses lofty, and were they possessed by a flourishing people, might make a fine appearance in an open situation; but, alas! these are inhabited by poor miserable Sardinians, whose rags and sallow countenances account but too well for the ruinous state of their habitations. This censure is, however, too general; I must make some exceptions. The city is divided into two parts, the *high* and *low*; the lower town is, as I have just described, abominable; but the upper is tolerably well built, and the streets considerably wider. Here are the few public buildings which the city can boast. Of these none merit any attention but the churches. The cathedral in particular is worthy of notice; it is not large, but its interior is highly finished, and adorned with statues and paintings by some of the first artists. Any attempt to describe pictures I am aware is little better than ridiculous; but I cannot help mentioning one of St. Cecilia, which almost inspired me with the enthusiasm and pleasure so well expressed in her sweet countenance. Not far from the cathedral is the college (which, I believe, is under the direction of the Jesuits) a large mass of stone building, well situated, but at present apparently much neglected.

In the streets I saw several Barbary slaves employed in public labour. These poor miserable men appeared most of them worn out with cares and years, and with difficulty dragged their chains; indeed, from their appearance, I judge that the age of enterprize is at an end among the Sardinians, who, in exhibiting these poor objects, remind us only of the detestable maxims that still influence their actions,

tions, and the national imbecility to which they are now reduced. They have still some large gallies in the port, which had formerly been employed against the infidels; but they are no longer serviceable.

The king's palace is in a sad neglected state. They are now endeavouring to put it in tolerable repair for the reception of the unfortunate prince who takes his title from this island, and has been driven by the late continental occurrences to seek refuge in this miserable remnant of his dominions. We were not permitted to see the interior of this palace, but an officer very politely shewed us a cabinet of natural curiosities, consisting of minerals, shells, some fine specimens of coral (taken up in the bay of Cagliari) reptiles, insects, &c. very badly arranged; besides these, we were shewn a valuable collection of Roman coins and antiquities found at different periods in the island; also, in another apartment, a complete set of anatomical preparations in wax, representing the various stages of dissection, most admirably executed.

Cagliari is well fortified; but, from such defenders as the garrison, little, I fear, could be expected. The ramparts are choaked with weeds and dirt; in some embrasures we see rusty guns dismounted, in others fragments of gun-carriages, or an old broken-down field-piece; the sentinels either idly sauntering about without their muskets, or, with these carelessly thrown across the shoulder, standing staring at any object which passes; and if you regard their military in a body, you see soldiers, as a lively Frenchman well remarked, "*sans discipline et sans culottes*." It is no wonder, therefore, that the French continue a great bugbear to the reflecting class of Sardinians. As to the common people, they place implicit reliance on the prayers of their priests, and the protection of St. Fizio, their tutelar saint, the assurances of whose good will inspire them with sufficient confidence even to defy the devil. In one of my rambles through the city I witnessed a grand procession in honour of this St. Fizio, the tutelar saint of the island; but I shall not dwell upon it, as such ceremonies are sufficiently described by others. I joined in it, and had an opportunity of seeing assembled in church all the beauty and fashion of the city. In spite of English prejudices, I must own that many of the Sardinian females have very pleasing countenances; their eyes especially are in general very beautiful and expressive, and of uncommon vivacity.

We did not miss the opportunity of going to the opera. The theatre is elegant, and nearly as large as Covent Garden without its galleries. As the Carnival had now commenced, we had a masked ball in the pit, at the conclusion of the opera, in which I observed nothing very particular, except the curious manner of conducting it. At this season of folly and festivity all ranks have of course a right to dance or play the fool in whatever manner they think proper; but, during this state of anarchy, how are we to distinguish the gentleman from the plebeian? The Sardinians manage this by a very simple expedient, for the *citizens* are obliged to dance with a mask, and the
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class of *nobles* are privileged to expose their faces to public inspection; an ordinance well calculated to answer the two-fold purpose of pointing out to the stranger hereditary dignity, and affording a cheap means of maintaining a superiority which they might otherwise find it difficult to prove.

Among these licensed fashionables I was fortunate enough to meet with one intelligent young man, son of Baron di —, who spoke of the state of the island with much greater freedom than I should have expected in a privileged *noble*. He candidly acknowledged the miserable condition of the country and the want of vigour in their laws, for during our stay here we have heard of several murders in the streets, which the nation seemed to regard with surprising indifference. From this gentleman I learned that the population of Cagliari is about 15,000, out of which number he supposes we may safely reckon two or three thousand priests, monks, and nuns! The whole island, he imagines, contains 500,000 souls: the peasants, I understand, are a race of beings of the vilest character; in their dress and language very different from the citizens; indeed, in the interior of the island they are represented to be little better than barbarous freebooters, acknowledging no laws whatever. I saw several of these in Cagliari; they are savage-looking fellows, very oddly dressed, and armed with a huge knife, which they stick in their girdle. The commerce of this island is chiefly confined to the exportation of a little corn, oil, and wine: notwithstanding a great neglect of proper cultivation, it is extremely productive in all sorts of grain, and abounds in fruit. In the northern part the mountains are said to be rich in valuable minerals, and the country generally affords a great quantity of game, the most profitable of which to the inhabitants is that of their buffaloes, wild boars, and various kinds of deer. With all these advantages however, the Sardinians do but enjoy a bare existence. It is sincerely to be hoped that the presence of their monarch, who is now about to reside with them, may effect some change for the better. To the ancient Romans this island was a place of exile, whether from prejudice or philanthropy I will not pretend to say. I even pity the men who are now compelled to reside in it.

(To be continued.)

ON THE ATTACHMENT TO MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

EVERY one who has visited Scotland, or has read travels into that country, must have been struck with the great popularity attached to the memory of Queen Mary, displayed in the association of her name with all the places of her temporary residence, and with
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the scenes of her transactions; so that a stranger to Scottish history might suppose that the glory and felicity of her reign had eclipsed those of every other in that country, and had thrown all its other sovereigns into oblivion. Yet the fact is so much the reverse, that scarcely ever has a reign been more unfortunate, or a sovereign less entitled to the gratitude of subjects. Setting aside all the controverted points relative to the misconduct of this unhappy princess, it cannot be disputed, that, being educated in France among her maternal ancestry, the Guises, she from childhood fixed all her affections exclusively upon that country—that on her marriage with the Dauphin she prevailed upon secretly to sign away that independence of which the Scottish nation has always been so jealous, and to make over her hereditary realm, in failure of issue, as a gift to the crown of France—that she came to Scotland with a rooted aversion to the country and its inhabitants—that she was a bigotted adherent to a religion which the majority of her subjects had discarded—that in contempt of the native nobility, and in defiance of decorum, she gave all her confidence (if nothing more) to an insolent Italian upstart—and that after scenes which involved the Scottish name in disgrace throughout Europe, and which implied, if not the blackest guilt, at least the greatest indelicacy, self-will, and indiscretion on her part, she was the cause of a civil war, which terminated in her perpetual exile from her country. I well know that much may be said in extenuation of most of these instances of misconduct, and that Mary may deserve more to be pitied than to be detested; but to select her as the object of fond attachment, and consecrate her memory as the English do that of Elizabeth, and the French of Henry IV., is surely unworthy of the acknowledged good sense of the Scotch nation.

It is not difficult, however, to assign causes for this national partiality; and three especially may be pointed out as having operated upon different sets of people.

The patriots of Scotland, warm in the recollection of its struggles for independence against England, forget every thing in Mary but the unjust treatment she met with from her English rival, and regard her as the victim of a system of policy directed to the subjugation of their country. They pardon her subserviency to France, from the consideration, that to its connexion with that kingdom, Scotland was indebted for its chief support against the usurpations of England. It is enough to excite their zeal in her favour, that she was a Scottish queen unjustly put to death by an English one; and all her faults are sunk in her political martyrdom. The motive to this class, of which the excess alone can be blamed, is *nationality*.

Another set of Mary's advocates are chiefly instigated by partiality for the House of Stuart, a feeling once very predominant in Scotland, and widely diffused in the sister country by the spirit of jacobitism. To all these, the Queen of Scots is the revered relick of an ancient royal house, and the progenitor of that favourite race of sovereigns which long held the sceptre of the combined kingdoms. The resistance

ance to her government, first raised by the Scottish calvinists, whose principles of state partook of republicanism, appears to them in the light of a criminal rebellion, and they espouse her cause as the sacred cause of monarchy. The zeal of this class may be denominated *party*.

The third, and perhaps most numerous, tribe of Mary's admirers are the *sentimentalists*. These form to their imaginations a figure of exquisite beauty, adorned with every amiable quality and elegant accomplishment, and fondly sympathise with all its distresses, as those of a fair and innocent sufferer, inflicted by a jealous rival. The scene of her execution, so pathetically painted by two historians little favourable to her memory, melts them to compassion, and they cannot think that one who died so heroically could have lived guiltily. The tender, the romantic, the poetical, in both kingdoms indifferently, indulge this sensibility whenever the charming Queen of Scots is recalled to mind; and due allowance, certainly, ought to be made for feelings springing from so pure a source. We learn from history that the *interesting* queen Joan of Naples, who also had the misfortune of being charged with the murder of her husband, was the object of similar emotions. At the same time it must not be thought extraordinary if those who have been accustomed to form their estimate of characters with a little more moral consideration, should be backward in participating of this amiable enthusiasm. In fact, few things are more prejudicial to morality than indulgence to gross faults and crimes, on account of qualifications which imply little estimable in the owners, and are useless to those with whom they are connected. The grand enquiry relative to persons in every station of life ought to be how they have acquitted themselves in the first line of their duty. For failures here, no inferior merits can compensate.

I cannot conclude without a serious admonition to the respectable patriots of Scotland no longer to countenance a weak and childish attachment, which is injurious to the memory of their other sovereigns, and inconsistent with the sobriety and manliness of the national character.

Yours, &c.

BRITANNICUS.

ENQUIRY RESPECTING THE POOR LAWS.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

IN a late publication by WILLIAM HALL, on the dangerous tendency of the LONDON FEMALE PENITENTIARY (an institution which I much wish may prosper) is the following passage, concerning which I shall request information from some of your readers.

"To those who have even but a very superficial acquaintance with the poor laws of England, it will immediately occur, that *there is no necessity*

necessity for any one woman, however desperate her character, to continue in prostitution a single hour, to secure her daily support; to insist upon the contrary of this, is to libel the parish officers, the magistrates, and the legislature of the kingdom. In every parish within the bills of mortality there is a workhouse, or some sort of apartment that answers the same purpose, the design of which is to afford a "prompt admission," and thus to "provide for the immediate want" of every character destitute of the lawful means to procure their daily bread: and I would here appeal to the public, and ask, can they for a moment suppose that there is even one solitary instance of a common prostitute, "*whose heart revolts at the deed*," LONGING TO ESCAPE FROM A LIFE OF SUCH INFAMY," but what would much sooner go into a workhouse, as a temporary refuge, until some better provision is made for her, than to continue her infamous conduct for a single hour? And I will further observe, that if any such female (as just described) goes to any parish officer within the precincts of this metropolis, acknowledging that she has been an unfortunate girl of the town, that she "*longs to escape from a life of such infamy*," but has no other means of procuring her daily support, I say there is no woman of this description whose application would not immediately procure a "PROMPT admission" to the workhouse; and care would be taken of her until some method was devised for her being restored as a useful member of society."

Not being able, on consulting *Burn's Justice*, to find it satisfactorily laid down, either directly or by inference, that a person in the situation above mentioned could claim relief (which I was of opinion they could) I shall be much obliged, through the medium of your miscellany, to be referred to any book where this matter is clearly mentioned—as it is a matter of *very great importance* that such a circumstance should be known in general, and in particular to the conductors of the numerous RELIEF SOCIETIES in this metropolis and elsewhere. Mr. Hall does not seem to have taken into consideration the great probability there is, that many of the unfortunate females for whose benefit the Penitentiary was established, would feel great reluctance in applying to the parish officers, if they suspected they would immediately be sent to their own parish, and amongst their relations and friends, whose anger they may have incurred; but would not have the same dread of applying to the Penitentiary.

A SUBSCRIBER TO THE LONDON FEMALE PENITENTIARY.

CORDAGE FROM THE PLANTAIN BARK.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

AT a period when the efforts of a powerful and active enemy are unceasingly directed against the commerce and manufactures of our country, every circumstance which can extend the sources of national industry, and render us more independent of those branches of traffic from which we are now either partially or wholly excluded, must be regarded as eminently beneficial to the interests of the public. I make this remark in allusion to a discovery which is yet by no means generally known, that the fibres composing the inner bark of the plantain tree are capable of being applied to the manufacture of ropes and cables with equal, if not greater advantage, than the hemp itself. A specimen of this fibrous bark was a few days ago put into my hands, accompanied by a statement, on authority of the best kind, that a rope of a given circumference, composed of this material, was found to sustain without injury a weight of 900 lbs. ; while a rope of the same size, manufactured from hemp, was incapable of supporting more than 700 lbs. Some doubt, it seems, was entertained in the first instance, whether the plantain bark rope would take tar as well as the hempen one. Repeated experiments have proved that it will, and that it is equally well adapted with the latter to all the uses of commerce, manufacture, &c. I should be gratified if some one of your readers, who has had the opportunity of informing himself more minutely on this subject, would communicate to your Magazine any further particulars which might be thought interesting. The fact, if duly ascertained, is certainly one of much moment. The partial or complete substitution of the plantain bark for hemp in the manufacture of ropes, would render us much less dependant for a supply of the raw material upon countries, our intercourse with which is liable to be frequently suspended, and from which we are at this moment in a great measure excluded by the circumstances of the times. Another advantage, and that not less important, is the extension, or rather, perhaps, the creation of a fair and open commercial intercourse with the coast of Guinea, where, if I am rightly informed, the plantain tree is met with in a rich profusion, and is susceptible of cultivation to an unlimited extent. Instead of the uncertain and trifling returns of ivory, gums, and a few colouring woods, our manufactures, received in a greatly increased quantity, might be paid for by a most important and valuable article of trade. The Africans have hitherto known us but as traffickers in human blood. May they know us in future as the honest merchants of a free and enlightened country !

I remain, Sir, yours, &c.

A. Z.

February 8, 1809.

POSTING IN RUSSIA.

THE origin of posting in Russia is as old, perhaps, as the fourteenth century. At first there were no establishments for conveying travellers from one place to another; and those who undertook journeys were obliged to provide horses of their own, or to hire horses from the peasants in the villages. As travelling became more frequent by the increase of commerce, it gave rise in the villages along the highways to a branch of business so profitable, that many of the peasants made it their principal occupation to supply travellers with horses, and in course of time these peasants gradually began to form themselves into a particular class or society. The villages where such peasants resided were called *yam*, which signifies station; and the people themselves were distinguished by the appellation of *Yamshtshiki*. The period when this society was first formed cannot be determined with certainty, but the term *Yemshtshiki* occurs so early as the fifteenth century.

At the beginning of the sixteenth century there existed a tribunal called *Yamskoi Prikas*, to which all the *Yamshtshiki* were subordinate, and from which travelling passes were delivered. Each *Yamshtshiki* or post-boor received an annual salary of thirty rubles, was freed from all taxes, and had permission at the same time to carry on his agricultural labours. On the other hand, the *Yamshtshiki* were bound to be ready in certain villages, with a specified number of horses, for the use of the *tzar*, and in return they received at each journey a small sum under the name of drink-money, which, if we reflect on the period, might be considered as very great. In consequence of these advantages, the number of the *Yamshtshiki* every where increased, and the boors were anxious to obtain admission into this society. Travelling also became so easy, convenient, and expeditious, that this institution is mentioned in terms of approbation by foreigners who at that time travelled in Russia.

This institution, however, was not entirely of a public nature, as it was destined chiefly for the *tzar's* court, or for persons in his service. Private individuals might make use of it; but as no regular price was fixed, they were obliged to enter into a new bargain with the peasants at each station. In the year 1713 it first assumed the character of a public establishment; for at that period Peter the Great gave orders that every traveller provided with a pass should be furnished with *Yamshtshiki* horses, and settled the price, which was a *copec* per verst for one horse from Petersburg to Novogorod, and half a *copec* for every other part in the kingdom. On all the highways *Yams* were established, at each of which a certain number of horses were maintained. The post-boors retained their common dress; but when on service, they were obliged to suspend before their breast an imperial eagle of brass. Instead of the *Yamskoi-*

Prikas, a Yamskoi Chancery was formed with an office at Moskva, and the annual salaries of the Yamshtshiki were abolished, as they were now allowed to receive hire from the persons who employed them.

In the year 1781 the Yamskoi Chancery was abolished, and the post-hire, which in 1762 had been raised to two copecs from St. Petersburg to Novogorod, and to one copec in every other part of the kingdom, was in 1783 placed on the same footing, namely, two copecs per verst throughout all Russia in Europe, except on the first stages from St. Petersburg and Moskva, for which two copecs were to be paid. In Siberia, the old hire was retained. Under the reign of Paul I. the Yamshtshiki post was restored nearly to the original form given to it by Peter the Great, and the hire was raised one copec per verst—an impost which travellers must pay in advance to government for the whole journey. The sum arising from this additional hire was assigned to the directors of the highways, and is destined for the repairs of the roads.

In Russia there are no public carriages which set out at stated periods to convey travellers from one place to another. Those who intend to travel post in this country must provide themselves with a pass,* which, if they mean to leave the kingdom, cannot be obtained till their names have been announced three times in the gazettes. To travel with convenience, they must also have carriages of their own, for at the different stations they can get only *kibitkas*. Formerly there was a great difference in the length of the stages, which sometimes contained forty versts, but at present they must not exceed thirty; and the number of horses which a traveller obtains is determined by the quantity of his baggage, the state of the roads, and the period of the year. The postilions have no horns, wear common clothes, and are no longer obliged to have a double eagle suspended before their breast.

The Russian horses are strong and hardy, accustomed to great exertion, and often travel a whole stage on a full gallop. According to an established regulation, the postilions, from the 1st of December to the 15th of March, and from the middle of May to the middle of September, are obliged to drive ten versts in an hour, and the rest of the year only eight. It is therefore very common for them to perform a journey of more than 250 versts, or 166 English miles, in twenty-four hours. In the month of February, 1744, a traveller went from St. Petersburg to Moskva, the distance between which at that time measured on the road was 748 versts, or about 500 English miles, in seventy-two hours.†

At most of the stations nothing can be obtained but horses, which are got ready with wonderful expedition. As inns are seldom to be found, travellers must provide themselves with every necessary article of accommodation; for though the boors are exceedingly hospitable, the

* Podoroshnaia.

† Busching's Magazine, vol. 10, p. 316.

this national virtue does not exempt travellers from the necessity of carrying with them bedding and provisions. This, however, is not the case in all the provinces. On the principal roads between Petersburg and Moskva, between the former and Riga, in White Russia, and in some other places, there are commodious inns; and orders have lately been issued for improving the post-houses erected at the different stages, and rendering them better suited to their destination. The post-hire, called in Russia *pragon*, is paid in advance at each station. In all the post villages of Russia there are boors besides the Yamshtshiki who hire their horses to travellers, and who on this account are called *Oshatiki*, that is to say, volunteers. These boors not only assist the post when short of horses, but maintain a correspondence with each other on the most frequented roads, and have escorts in the different towns. Those who apply to them may perform a whole journey by means of their assistance, and in this manner can travel as expeditiously and somewhat cheaper than by post horses.

Before 1663 all letters in Russia were conveyed by special messengers; but in that year a regular post was established at Moskva, by the same person to whom this empire was indebted for its first manufactory of cloth. This post set out from Moskva twice every week for Riga and Vilna, and brought back the letters from different parts of Europe. As soon as the post arrived at Moskva the mails were carried to the Potzolkoi-Prikas, or post-office in the castle, and there opened, to prevent private persons from obtaining information sooner than the court of the state of public affairs both in the kingdom and in foreign countries, but in particular to detect suspicious correspondence. The post brought also the Dutch, Hamburgh, Königsberg, and other gazettes, which the tzar caused to be translated or read to him in the Russian language.*

Those, therefore, are wrong who ascribe to Peter the Great the introduction of the post into Russia, as this prince only improved and rendered it more generally useful. For the speedy conveyance of ukases and letters, he caused posts to be established in the year 1720 in all the large towns situated on the high roads. According to a writer who resided at that time in St. Petersburg, the order for this purpose was issued so early as the year 1718. "In this year," says he, "the riding post was established on the same footing as in Germany. The postilions were obliged to blow horns, and to wear a grey frock, having a post-horn cut out of red cloth sewed on their back."† It is, however, probable that this writer alludes only to the alteration which Peter made in regard to the foreign post, for the establishment of the internal post could not be earlier than 1720.

At present the business of the post-office is entrusted to the management of directors, who reside at St. Petersburg, and whose chief is director-general of this department throughout the kingdom. Three post-offices, each of which has a director, namely, those of Petersburg,

* Kilburger, in Busching's Magazine, vol. iii. p. 319.

† Weber's Verändert Russland, vol. i. p. 126.

burgh, Moskva, and Lesser Russia, are subordinate to them, and these three have under their inspection all the post-offices in the towns, the affairs of which are conducted by post-masters.

The post-office at St. Petersburg is the center of all the foreign and internal correspondence, and consequently the most important. The posts which arrive at and set out from this office are,

1st. That of Moskva, which comes and goes twice every week; and each time an extra-post, a light and a heavy, is dispatched also. This extra-post conveys private letters, which are paid for according to weight; small packets, which do not weigh more than five pounds, and packets belonging to government, go free of any expence; and heavy packets, either belonging to government or to individuals, are paid for at the rate of two rubles per pood, or two copecs per pound.

2d. That of Mittau, which brings the letters from most parts of Europe twice a week.

3d. That of Riga, which comes and goes twice a week, and takes all the letters dispatched to foreign countries.

4th. That of White and Lesser Russia, which arrives and sets out twice a week.

5th. That of Viborg, the arrival and departure of which is the same; but it carries out and brings back Swedish letters only once every week.

6th. That of Archangel, which comes and goes once a week.

7th. That of Yaroslavl, which comes and goes twice a week.

8th. That of Jassy, Constantinople, &c. which arrives and sets out the 1st and the 16th of each month.

9th. The post of Cronstadt, which in summer comes and goes every day, but in winter only once a week.

The post-office at Moskva has the greatest share of business, as its district extends to the remotest parts of Siberia. It therefore employs a much greater number of clerks than that of St. Petersburg; and before the last partition of Poland, it had under it 108 offices in various parts of the empire. It dispatches seven different posts, but none of them, that of St. Petersburg excepted, sets out or arrives more than once a week. Between the smaller towns there are by-posts established by the magistrates, and maintained by the revenue arising from the carriage of letters.

The post-tax, which formerly was very different in different places, has, since the year 1783, been uniform throughout the whole kingdom. Letters are charged by the weight, and packets by the pound. Money, whether in gold, silver, or bank notes, may be transmitted also by the post; but one-half per cent. of the value must be paid as postage, and the post-office is security for its safe arrival. The post-office in most countries of Europe is a productive source of revenue; but this is not the case in Russia, as the expences of that establishment exceed what it brings in.

COLLECTANEA OXONIENSIA; OR, LETTERS TO AND FROM
EMINENT PERSONS, FROM THE ORIGINALS IN THE
BODLEIAN LIBRARY.

Sir JOHN COTTON to Dr. SMITH.

Stratton, April 1, 1693.

Sir,

Finding by your last letter that you have not so good health as you have used to have, I am much troubled. I hope the spring now advancing apace, by the help of your friend Dr. Brady, with God's blessing upon his endeavours, you will recover your former health and firm constitution. As for my library, it is wholly at your use and service. The same liberty which my father gave to the learned Mr. Selden I give to you. But Mr. Selden was too free in lending out books, which after his death were never restored. I cannot forbear sometimes to scribble something in poesy. I send you a late morning meditation, upon my Saviour's being crucified on the cross.

Cum subit illius tristissima lucis imago,
Qua cruce pendentem te video Dominum:
Tunc tua sunt inis mihi vulnera fixa medullis,
Mens stupet, et tantis ingemit usque malis.
Peccatum est homicida meum, tu criminis expers,
Debentur lateri vulnus et hasta meo.

I take great confidence to entertain you thus frequently with my verses; my only excuse is, that to you, who are (to use St. Paul's word) ἀφωρισμενος* to so divine an employment, since the subject I write is divine, they may not be altogether unacceptable. Were it not for this, you might justly blame me as Martial doth Ligurinus, for being *nimis poeta*.

I am, yours most affectionately,

J. COTTON.

From the same to the same.

Stratton, Jan. 15, 1694.

Sir,

I received your's, and it is a great joy and pleasure to me that I live in the memory of my friends. I endeavour what I can to defend myself against the infirmities of old age, which is commonly morose and querulous. And truly the consideration of my age is not unpleasant unto me. For to use the prince of the Roman orators' words,

* Rom. i. 1.

words, Quo proprius ad mortem accedo, eo citius quasi terram videre videor, aliquandoque in portum ex longa navigatione esse venturus. As for our present affairs, and the miserable war which doth afflict all Europe, I cannot be of King Priamus his opinion, whom Homer brings in caressing Helena with the appellation of φίλον τέκος, and tells her,

Οὐτὶ μοι αἰτιή εἶσσι, θεοὶ νῦ μοι αἰτίοι εἰσιν,
Ὅς μοι ἐφωρμήσαν πολέμον· πολυδάκρυον Ἀχαιῶν.

But in another place Homer seems to be in the right:

Αὐτῶν γὰρ σφίτερες αἰσάδαλιν ὀλοή
Νηπιοί.

This is consonant to the scripture, *Perditio tua ex te*. That there may be a general and lasting peace, and that the effusion of so much christian blood may be stopped, is the earnest desire and prayer of

Yours, most affectionately,

J. COTTON.

From the same to the same.

Sir,

I return you many thanks for the poems you sent me of the learned Huetius. They are very elegant, and seem to contend with the ancients. For the inscription upon my grandfather's monument, it was writ by my father; I only added out of Lucan, *Communis Mundo superest Rogus*.

I give you likewise very many thanks for the specimen you have sent me of my grand-father's life. I make no doubt but that it is performed with all the exactness that becomes a learned and judicious writer. Gruterus, in his edition of Cicero's works, in his preface, doth make mention of my grand-father amongst the learned men; as Daniel Heinsius, Thuanus, Sir H. Savile, and many others. Bishop Mountague gives him the title of a Magazine of Learning. I enjoy (θεῶν δίδωτος) indifferent good health, considering my age; and to divert melancholy, sometimes I write verses. *Hoc est mediocribus illis Ex vitis unum*. I take the confidence to send you a specimen of some of them. They are moral, and upon the same subject.

Hic dolor, et tristes posuere cubilia curæ,
Fer bene, fit levius quod bene fertur onus.
Ista tributa tuæ sunt vitæ, fortiter omnes
Fer casus, si vis vivere, disce pati.
Casibus infesta est vita hæc, et plena malorum,
Pax nulli longa est, vix equidem induciæ.

A very

A very curious Letter from Dr. LLOYD (Bishop of St. Asaph), to Dr. FELL (Bishop of Oxford), relating to the DUKE of MONMOUTH, written the day after the execution of that unfortunate Nobleman.

July 16 [16] 85.

My Lord,

I received your Lordship's letter by the last post, with two enclosed, one to the Duke of Ormond, the other to the Lord Privy-Seal; both which letters I delivered to their owne hands, and they promised to answer them.

For the King's Inauguration, I know my Lord of Canterbury has made ready an office to be used every year, the 6th of February, so that there will need no question concerning it.

I was this day again at Sir H. Foxe's, to speak with him, but he was not at home. I will try again to-morrow.

I told your Lordship in my last the Bishop of Ely was appointed by his Majesty to attend the Duke of Monmouth, and to prepare him to die the next day. The Duke wrote to his Majesty, representing how usefull he might and would be, if his Majesty would be pleased to grant him his life. But if it might not be, he desired a longer time, and to have another divine to assist him, Dr. Tennison, or whom else the King should appoint. The King sent him the Bishop of Bath and Wells to attend, and to tell him he must die the next morning. The two Bishops sate up in his chamber all night, and watcht while he slept. In the morning, by his Majesty's order, the Lords Privy-Seale and Dartmouth brought him also Dr. Tennison and Dr. Hooper. All these were with him till he died.

They got him to owne the King's title to the crown, and to declare in writing that the last King told him he was never married to his mother, and by word of mouth to acknowledge his invasion was sin, but could never get him to confess it was a rebellion. They got him to owne that he and Lady Herriet Wentworth had lived in all points like man and wife, but they could not make him confess it was adultery.

He acknowledged that he and his Duchess were married by the law of the land, and therefore his children might inherit, if the King pleased. But he did not consider what he did when he married her. He confest that he had lived many yeers in all sorts of debauchery, but said he had repented of it; and askt pardon, and doubted not that God had forgiven him. He said, that since that time he had an affection for Lady Herriot, and prayed that if it were pleasing to God, it might continue, otherwise that it might cease; and God heard his prayer. The affection did continue, and therefore he doubted not it was pleasing to God; and that this was a marriage; their choice of one another being guided not by lust, but by judgement upon due consideration.

They

They endeavored to shew him the falshood and mischievousness of this enthusiastick principle. But he told them it was his opinion, and he was fully satisfied in it. After all, he desired them to give him the communion next morning. They told him they could not do it, while he was in that error and sin. He said he was sorry for it.

The next morning, he told them he had prayed that if he was in an error in that matter God would convince him of it; but God had not convinced him, and therefore he believed it was no error.

When he was upon the scaffold, he professed himself a Protestant of the church of England. They told him he could not be so, if he did not own the doctrine of the church of England in the point of non-resistance, and if he persisted in that enthusiastic persuasion. He said he could not help it, but yet he approved the doctrine of the church in all other things. He then spoke to the people, in vindication of the Lady Herriot, saying she was a woman of great honor and virtue, a religious godly lady (those were his words). They told him of his living in adultery with her. He said, no. For these 2 years last past he had not lived in any sin that he knew of; and that he had never wronged any person, and that he was sure when he died to go to God, and therefore he did not fear death, which (he said) they might see in his face. Then they prayed for him, and he knelt down and joind with them. After all they had a short prayer for the King, at which he paused, but at last said Amen. He spoke to the headsman, to see he did his business well, and not use him as he did the Lord Russell, to give him 2 or 3 strokes; for if he did, he should not be able to lie still without turning. Then he gave the executioner 6 ginnies, and 4 to one Marshall, a servant of Sir T. Armstrong's, that attended him with the King's leave: desiring Marshall to give them the executioner if he did his work well, and not otherwise. He gave this Marshall overnight his ring and watch; and now he gave him his case of pickteeth: all for Lady Herriot. Then he laid himself down; and upon the signe given, the headsman gave a light stroke, at which he lookt him in the face; then he layd him down again, and the headsman gave him 2 strokes more, and then layd down the ax, saying, he could not finish his work; till being threatened by the Sheriff and others then present, he took up the ax again, and at 2 strokes more cut off his head.

All this is true as to matter of fact, and it needs no comment to your Lordship. I desire your prayers, and remain,

Your Lordship's most affectionate,

W. ASAPH.

CLASSICAL DISQUISITIONS.

HERODOTUS.

THE progress of nations in mental culture, and intellectual employments, seems to bear some analogy to that of individuals. "If we consider the exercises of the mind," says a great master of human nature, "it will be found that in each part of life some particular faculty is more eminently employed." The mind, he observes, when new to every object, delights to catch up loose and unconnected ideas, with hasty observation, and frequent and rapid transitions. The images which are collected by these transient surveys, the fancy is soon engaged in arranging and combining into a variety of pleasing pictures, which bear, perhaps, little resemblance to the realities of nature. At length, "from the imitations of truth, which are never perfect, we transfer our affection to truth itself," and the exercise of investigation and judgment becomes the principal occupation of the mind. Something like this order may be observed in the intellectual character of nations. The fictions and images of poetry, and melody of numbers, first delight the imagination and charm the ear; verse is the early vehicle of all instruction; it is employed to record events, to celebrate the praise of heroes, to convey the dictates of legislators, and the maxims of sages, and to express the sentiments of devotion;

*Recte facta refert, orientia tempora notis
Instruit exemplis, inopem solatur et ægrum.
Poscit opem chorus, et præsentia numina sentit,
Cælestes implorat aquas, doctâ prece blandus,
Avertit morbos, metuenda pericula pellit,
Impetrat et pacem, et locupletem frugibus annum.
Carmine Di Superi placantur, carmine Manes.*

In a succeeding stage of society, the pleasures of the imagination are not indeed dismissed, the genius of ancient poets is still admired, but the graver pursuits of judgment, and the labours of systematic investigation of particular facts, and general laws, are superadded. The historian and philosopher assume their station in society, and the poet himself often loses the wildness of genius, and the freshness of original observation, and supplies, in some degree, the defect, by accuracy of sentiment and polish of diction, escaping the faults, if he cannot reach the beauties of his predecessors. Such was the progress of literature in Greece. Homer, at a period far more remote than the commencement of accurate historical record, brought the poetical language of his country to perfection, and his work is still regarded as the model of that species of poetry in which excellence has most rarely been obtained. After a lapse of more than four centuries, occurs

the name of Herodotus, the first author, whose historical composition has withstood the power of time, and the first, perhaps, who attained just and comprehensive views of the nature of his art.

The names of various historical writers prior to Herodotus are, however, preserved, though little information remains respecting their personal history, or the character of their works. The chief are Hecataeus, Xanthus, and Hellanicus the Lesbian.

Hecataeus flourished about the commencement of the fifth century before the Christian æra. He is mentioned by Herodotus with the title of *λογοποιος*. He wrote a description of Asia, from which Herodotus is said to have borrowed some passages without acknowledgement. The authority for this charge is, however, very slender, and its credit seems to be nearly destroyed by the silence of Plutarch, who eagerly seizes every opportunity of attacking the reputation of Herodotus, but has not availed himself of this topic of reproach.

Xanthus wrote the history of Lydia, his native country, and had the character of an accurate writer, skilled in the antiquities of his nation. *Hellanicus* the Milesian was born twelve years before Herodotus. He wrote many works on various subjects of history, the titles of which are preserved. The opinions of the ancients are divided as to the merit of this writer. The few fragments of his works which remain have been collected by Sturz, and were published with illustrations and dissertations relative to the author and his writings at Leipsic, 1787, 8vo.

The merit of *Herodotus* was, perhaps, as superior as his fame to that of these authors. This historian was born at Halicarnassus, a well known city of Caria, 484 years before the Christian æra. The name of his father was Lyxes, that of his mother Dryo. Panyasis, a celebrated poet of antiquity, to whom, by the suffrages of some, the next place after Homer was assigned, and who suffered death under the tyranny of Lygdamis, was his uncle. The country of Herodotus was of Dorian colonization, and his lineage was noble. That his education corresponded to his birth, and to his subsequent eminence, may be easily supposed, but the names of his instructors are not recorded. The celebrity of an historian must have been an early object of his ambition, and the subject which he selected was sufficient to give full scope to the exercise of his talents. His theme was the enmity of the Greeks, and Persians, nations which at that time in their different interests and relations involved nearly the whole of the known world. To prepare himself for the illustration of the various topics which were included in this extensive subject, he resolved to visit many of the principal countries, which had been the scenes of the great transactions which he was about to describe, that he might derive his information from the most authentic sources. With this object he visited the different districts of Greece, Epirus, Macedonia, Thrace, and the confines of Scythia itself. He passed over into Egypt, of which country he has left a lively and faithful delineation, and conferred with the priests of Memphis, Heliopolis, and Thebes. He accurately

accurately observed the face of the countries through which he travelled, the distances of stations, the manners and customs of the people, the records of their antiquities, and circumstances of their physical distinctions. He seems to have been not less accurate in report than diligent in enquiry; and if, in an age labouring under the imperfections of science, when truth was often darkened by the impostures of the designing few, and the implicit credulity of the submissive many, he has shewn himself unable in some instances to discriminate between fiction and reality, he appears at least always free from the imputation of designing to impose on the ignorance of his readers. The accuracy of his descriptions of Libya and Cyrene, and their conformity with the observations of modern travellers, have induced many to believe that he visited those extensive tracts. The minuteness of his descriptions of Assyria and Babylon leads to the same conclusion with respect to those celebrated objects, and he has himself informed us that he visited Palestine and Colchis.

On returning to his native city, he found it subject to the tyranny of Lygdamis, the grandson of the celebrated Artemisia, who distinguished herself in the naval battle of Salamis. With the spirit of a Greek citizen, he withdrew from the oppressive yoke, and sought an asylum at Samos, and in this retreat seems to have arranged the materials of his history, and to have formed the first sketch of it. He afterwards entered into the project, which in connection with some of his fellow citizens he successfully executed, of expelling the tyrant Lygdamis from the power which he abused; but the state continuing to be torn with factions, he finally quitted his country, and passed over into Greece. At the celebration of the Olympic games he read, in presence of the collected Greeks, some parts of his history, which received the general plaudits of the assembly. After an interval of twelve years, it was again read in public before the Athenian people, at the celebration of the festival of the Panathenæa. The Athenians testified their approbation by presenting the author with ten talents, in pursuance of a decree, proposed by Anytus, and ratified by the people. A colony being sent about this time by the Athenians to Thurii, Herodotus associated himself in the enterprize, and seems to have spent the remainder of his life in Italy. The period of his death is wholly uncertain. During his residence in Magna Græcia, he must have revised and augmented his history, as it contains the mention of several events which occurred after the period of his emigration. Other circumstances relative to the writings of Herodotus, will be the subject of the ensuing paper.

Editions of Herodotus.

Herodotus was first printed by Aldus (Venet. fol. 1502, Gr.) This edition ranks among the most valuable productions of the Aldine press. In the preface Aldus tells us that it was formed by the collation of several copies. It preserves with greater fidelity than many
of

of the succeeding editions the peculiarities and elegancies of the Ionic dialect.

Two editions appeared at Basil (Feb. 1541, 1557) with the name of Camerarius. They contain also the two books of Georgius Gemisthus Pletho, compiled from Diodorus and Plutarch, respecting the events which occurred after the battle of Mantinea.

Two editions were likewise published by Henry Stephens at Paris, in the years 1570 and 1592, the latter of which contains a Latin version, and the fragments of Ctesias, with an appendix collected from various ancient authors, respecting the laws and institutions of the Persians and Egyptians.

The latter edition of H. Stephens is the basis of that of Jungermannus, which appeared at Frankfort, fol. 1608, Gr. and Lat. with various improvements, one of which is the current division of the text into chapters.

Gale published an elegant edition of this author at London, 1679, fol. assisted by the collation of two manuscripts.

Much was promised by the edition of Gronovius, which was published at Leyden, 1715, fol. The editor chiefly rested the claims of his work on the excellence of a Medicean manuscript, the readings of which he had employed. His exaggerated estimate of this copy exposed him to some ridicule, as in the judgment of critics it is much inferior to the Aldine edition.

The edition of Glasgow, elegantly printed by Foulis, in 9 volumes, duod. 1761, is taken from the text of Gronovius.

One of the most valuable editions ever published of any ancient author, is that of Herodotus by Wesseling, Amst. fol. 1763. This magnificent work contains the principal materials of former editions, with the very learned annotations of Valckenaër and Wesseling.

The first volume of a new edition of Herodotus was published at Leipsic by Reizius, a learned professor of that city, Oct. 1778. The text is chiefly taken from Wesseling, but in a learned preface the editor states the reasons which induced him in some instances to depart from his standard. The edition was left imperfect by Reizius. The text was lately completed in an additional volume by Schaefer, and the whole has very recently been reprinted in a more elegant form at Oxford.

A very elegant and improved edition of Herodotus has in part been published by Schaefer at Leipsic. Eight books of the text, occupying three volumes, have appeared.

An elegant edition in several volumes of a small form was lately printed at Edinburgh.

D.

COMPARISON OF THE TRANSLATIONS OF HORACE BY
FRANCIS AND BOSCAWEN.

IN a recent review of the new edition of Francis's Horace* in one of the monthly critical journals, a hope is expressed that this translation will in time be superseded by the more modern version of Mr. Boscawen. When it is required that a translation, uniformly true to the author's meaning, and not seldom faithful to his spirit, be abandoned for another, it is worth while to examine what claims the latter possesses to so marked and exclusive a preference. On comparing the respective versions of the odes (for the metre of Boscawen, modelled on Swift in preference to Pope, at once satisfied me as to the epistles and satires) I was surprized to find that in scarcely a single instance where the original is remarkable for a curious felicity of expression, and where also the old translator is singularly happy, had the more modern imitator attained to even a decent share of success. The bald verballity of literal translation has justly been censured as enfeebling the essential spirit of poetry: but although the translator be not required to creep in his author's track word by word, it is obviously his indispensable duty to retain the *manner* of his author; and this can only be done by retaining the prominent characteristics of his diction and expression. I have, therefore, no hesitation in asserting, that he who errs on the side of verbal metaphor, has a better chance of occasional success in the transfusion of his author's manner, than he who rambles into the vague field of paraphrastical imitation. Dr. Francis is often tame from scrupulous literality; as in the line,

Trembling both at heart and knees :†

but his fidelity is often no less just to the spirit than to the letter: witness the lines,

Cruel who hurts *the fragrant kiss*
Which Venus bathes with *quintessence of bliss*:

and again in the same ode,

When on *thy lips the fierce-sond boy*
Impresses with his teeth the furious joy.

Compare

* Revised by the poet laureat:—poor Dr. Francis!

† Oldsworth, whose versions of Horace's lyrics are now forgotten, but who comes nearest to Dryden of all who have succeeded him, has rendered this line very happily:

Or if the zephyrs fan the boughs
She starts and quivers, pants and heaves.

Compare with these the chill generalities of Boscawen :

When the *fierce spoiler* has imprest
Rude kisses on thy *tender face* :

and,

With him who dar'd those lips *profane*
That *breathe* the nectar'd *sweets of love* :

where the *impressit dente notam* and the *imbuil* of Horace are totally lost.

The following stanza is as miserably botched and eked out as any school-boy copy of verses.

If e'er in the sequester'd shade
With thee in playful mood I stray'd,
O come, my *much-lov'd* shell ;

To distant years my verse prolong ;
Tune to *soft notes* the Latin song,
Celestial music swell !!

Boscawen.

This is just such tawdry frippery as we should have expected from the first effort of a young lady with a *genius* for poetry; and who, having picked up a smattering of Latin, imagines herself qualified to translate Horace. Francis only says, with spirited conciseness, and a classical simplicity,

If with thee beneath the shade
Many an idle air I play'd,
Now the Latian song my lyre
With some immortal strain inspire.

To this example of tedious impertinency we may add the following of tasteless omission, from the same ode: the passage express by Francis,

Lycus form'd in beauty's pride:
With his hair of jetty dye,
And black the lustre of his eye ;

dwindles in the translation of Boscawen into *graceful* Lycus.

There are certain passages of Horace which are incapable of a literal translation, but which are so strongly imbued with a spirit of poetry, that it should seem scarcely possible for a translator to produce any thing in imitation utterly destitute of all poetry whatever. Let us take one of these passages in Boscawen's translation, Ode 9, book 1.

Trust to the gods the rest—whose *care*
Can bid *fierce* nature's conflict cease ;
When the rude winds the forest tear,
Can hush the elements to peace.

With

With this vapid, sing-song parody, in which not a vestige of the original manner is retained, let us compare the translation of Dr. Francis.

For when the warring winds arise,
And o'er the fervid ocean sweep;
They speak—and lo! the tempest dies
On the smooth bosom of the deep;
Unshaken stands the aged grove,
And feels the providence of Jove.

I shall trouble you with but one more instance. It is the conclusion of the 37th Ode, 4th book, which describes in sublime and animated diction the death of Cleopatra:

Serene the poisonous asps applied;
Imbib'd her death through every vein;
And fearless by reflexion grown,
Dar'd greatly thus to end her woes;
Disdaining, born to grace a throne,
To swell the triumph of her foes.

Boscawen.

I need scarcely point out to your readers that the meaning of *asperas* (equivalent to *asperatas*, *exacerbatas*;) an epithet of uncommon beauty, is wholly disregarded: that *grown fearless* by reflexion* is a wretched substitute for *deliberatâ morte ferocior*; that *to end her woes* is lamentably tame; and that nothing more awkward and ungraceful can well be imagined than the collocation of the words in the last two lines: Let us now see Dr. Francis:

With fearless hand she dar'd to grasp
The writhings of the wrathful asp;
And suck the poison through her veins,
Resolv'd on death and fiercer from its pains;
Then scorning to be led the boast
Of mighty Cæsar's naval host;
And arm'd with more than mortal spleen,
Defrauds a triumph, and expires a queen!

C.

* Old Sandys has succeeded much better:

That with a clear brow durst behold
Her downe-cast state; and uncontrol'd
By horror, offer her firme breast
To touch of aspes, and death's arrest,
More brave in her deliberate end.

“A Relation of a Journey” into Turkey, Egypt, &c.

ACCOUNTS OF, AND EXTRACTS FROM, RARE AND
CURIOUS BOOKS.

MEMORIE HISTORICHE DELLA CHIESA BOLOGNESE E SUOI
PASTORI ALL' EMINENTISS. E REVERENDISS. SIGNOR
CARD. NICOLO LUDOVISIO ARCIVESCOVO DI BOLOGNA
E PRENCIPE.—*Da Celso Faleoni. Can. Reg. Lat. 1649.*

(Continued).

The next story which I have been tempted to select is of a more romantic cast, and occurs under the year 1371 and the Episcopate of Bernardo Buonavalle.

"This was a season ripe for revolutions and for all manner of extravagant incidents. There lived in Bologna a gentlewoman named Raffaella, the wife of Giovanni Marsilio, a lady equally chaste and noble, in the spring-time of her youth, adorned with every grace of mind and person. Mattia Griffoni, a citizen of one of the first families in Bologna, had the misfortune to burn with the most excessive ardour of love for the perfections of this beautiful lady; but the wifely modesty of Raffaella forbad him to reveal it. Nevertheless, human passions are of so fiery a nature, that they can subsist in all the extravagance of desire. She suffered herself to be little seen; yet could not so entirely conceal herself from the eyes of others but that she sometimes, though with all honesty, displayed her beauties in the open street or in the church; and if she ever looked round her, it was with so subdued an air, and so withdrawn into herself, that it rather inspired veneration than delight. By how much less the eyes of Mattia rejoiced in her aspect, by so much the more did his heart dwell upon the love it had engendered. At last it so happened that his fair-one fell sick, and of a disease so severe, that it first robbed her of her charms and finally of life itself. Mattia, struck to the heart by so dreadful a blow, and driven almost to frenzy by the excess of his despair, found no relief but in sighs and tears; so wasted away by this devouring passion; that in a few days he was become even less than the shadow of Mattia. Although earnestly adjured, he constantly refused to discover the cause of his torment. But love cannot belie itself, or mask its countenance; it is always love. Friends, relations, and companions all united, sometimes to soothe him by allurements and promises, sometimes to stimulate him by their reproaches, to make a confession of the violent passion which so afflicted him: at last, become prodigal of his affection, and fancying a remedy from disclosing it, he made the sad relation rather in floods of tears than in words. They, being now acquainted with his grief, led him (in order to amuse his mind) out of the city, by the gate of St. Mama, to Valverde, where

where they had a very beautiful villa, in which during the summer heats they used to enjoy the freshness of the country air. Mattia, who thought of nothing but his lost Raffaella, as soon as he found himself for the first time alone and free from his assiduous comforters, retired to some distance from observation, and ascended a neighbouring hill, where he called loudly, but with a voice interrupted by sobbing, upon the name of Raffaella. He resorted to this eminence, because he knew that Modesty has her dwelling-place in Paradise. His exclamations were heard by his companions, who immediately ran to the place, doubting some fatal occurrence; but no sooner did they reach the spot where he stood than they beheld Raffaella herself, who advanced to meet them with solemn steps and an air of majestic sweetness. Having saluted them all, she took Mattia by the hand with a courteous freedom and led him away with her alone, into a little meadow adjoining, where they could be seen by all the company. Here she made him sit down with her on the grass, and kept him for a whole hour engaged in earnest discourse; and at parting she enjoined him never to make known the converse which they had held together. She then vanished without infusing fear or horror. But the wonder which they beheld, as it had kept the companions motionless through confusion, so it now inspired them with the more ardent curiosity to know that which Raffaella had spoken; howbeit, to all their questions he answered not a word. Nevertheless, as it is usually the case with men that the more they are forbid the more they desire to know, so they counselled among themselves, and resolved that Mattia should be examined by some magistrate or person in authority concerning the whole circumstance as it had passed. The first nobleman of the town interposed, and used every instance to make him reveal the secret. The bishop himself, as to him it fitly appertained, by reason of his sacred office, to make question of all similar appearances, commanded him; but neither instances nor commands were of any avail. He constantly refused to open his lips concerning it. Nor, perchance, if he would have made the discovery, was he able. From that blessed moment, in which the lady so appeared to him, never again was a smile seen to enlighten his countenance; but with all the severities of penitence, accompanied by continual prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and other works of goodness, did he lead from that time forward a life of rigid austerity even until death, when, it is lawful for us to believe and to hope, that he rejoined the company of his beloved Raffaella in Paradise."

Both the foregoing are profane stories; but the Annals of Bologna furnish many ecclesiastical wonders, and, among others, the celebrated miracle of St. Mary's Chapel, which, being blown up by a mine during the great siege in 1512, fell back again without any damage upon its former foundations, with part of the wall annexed to it, in such manner as to leave no mark of any breach whatever visible. This story cannot be doubted, since it is not only recorded by Guicciardini and our good author Celso Falconi, but the memory of it is

preserved by a Latin inscription set up shortly after the event. But Bologna has also many *indigenous* saints of wonderful efficacy, such as the blessed Imelda Lambertini, who, when only eleven years old, being dead to all secular pleasures, consumed her days and nights in devout aspirations after the holy Eucharist; which she was yet too young to partake. A miraculous host descended from heaven and perched on the head of this blessed infant, who, shortly after partaking of the food so much longed for, received more complete evidence of the divine favour, being removed from this sinful transitory state to the glorious seat prepared for her among the angels. Such also was the blessed Lucia, whose legend being somewhat more interesting than that of the generality of saints, I am inclined to add it to my former selections from the same book.

p. 198. "The last days of the bishop Gerardo Gisella (who presided from 1188 to 1199) were rendered illustrious by the sanctity of Lucia, a noble virgin, who to the beauties of the soul united those of the body;* whose incorruptible frame, although the minister of the senses, could never admit that in their weakness any thing should arise to the disparagement of that modesty which her Creator had given her from her earliest years. And, therefore, to confirm the purity of her holy desires, and place herself at a distance from the deceits of the world, she retired to the convent of St. Christina di Stifonte, which in the year 1125 had been conferred by Honorius II. a Bolognese, on the order of the Camaldulenses. Lucia having placed herself in this sacred asylum, the earthly hierarchy, the change of her garments increased the holiness of her heart, and made easy to her the road of Paradise. In this retreat she remained, such a pattern of solitude, that she became quite a reproach to the rest of the society. She was never seen but when necessity or duty demanded it.

"It so happened that a young man of the town tenderly loved this Lucia, and loved her the more, the nearer she approached, in her convent dress, to the beauty of heaven. Lucia's humble cell was adjoining the church, and from it, through a small window, she saw and heard the daily mass. Her lover one day chanced to come early to church, and casting his eyes on this window, saw her within the cell. His love prompted him to renew his gaze, but fear withheld him, and, casting down his eyes with a false modesty, he feigned not to have seen her. Oh how many pretexts did his heart invent to teach his eyes, under a feigned aspect, to enjoy the sight of her whom he desired! For many days did he frequent the church, not to pray, but to idolatrise. At length the frequency of his visits betrayed him to Lucia, who, finding that it was herself whom he came to see, felt shame, even as if it were a sin to please. She then closed her window

* Religion must have been of singular advantage in the early ages of the church to female loveliness. I never yet heard of a *homely* christian virgin or martyr. Even our evangelical preachers can hardly deny that the Roman Catholic church retains the true "Beauty of Holiness."

dow for ever, and with it all hope to her admirer; for Christ, her spouse, was in her heart, and every thing besides she utterly despised. The young man, having witnessed the eclipse of that sun for which alone he lived, wasted away in sighs, the characters of excessive grief, the proofs of a despair which swallowed up every other sentiment. Taking counsel of reason, he at last resolved to banish himself from all his happiness; but when he turned his back on his native country, his heart was ignorant of the distance to which he condemned his feet. These travelled onwards, but that never moved from the place of its abode.

"In the meanwhile Lucia had passed from life to immortality.

"Still journeying onwards, he arrived in barbarous countries of idolaters, among whom the name of Christ was held in abhorrence; and, being known for a follower of Jesus, he was cast into prison without examination. There, among blocks and chains, they gave him his election, either to deny the name of him whom he adored, or to die in torments. At this dreadful alternative his thoughts turned only on Lucia, and the imagination of her shed a divine light over his soul, and dissipated the darkness which had overshadowed his mind even more than his corporeal sight. The sweet remembrance of past happiness drew from him a sigh of regret, and raising his eyes, full of devout affection, to heaven, he exclaimed,

"Oh, purest virgin, Lucia, whether alive or dead, aid me with thy prayers; and, if I once loved thee with a vain affection, and now truly repent me of that human weakness, even now, in these my cruel agonies, prove thy power, and work my deliverance through thy holy intercession!"

"He did not remain long, before, being overtaken with a gentle slumber, he fell asleep, and in that sleep he found his salvation; for, when he awoke, he was free from his confinement, and distant only a stone's throw from the monastery of St. Christina. He now doubted with himself whether he were not still asleep and dreaming. The weight of his fetters (yet remaining on his feet) argued him a prisoner—the sound of the church bells assured him of his deliverance. At length, while he was still standing in a kind of stupefaction between sleeping and waking, Lucia herself appeared before him, clad in those garments of light which Paradise only knows. For a long time, delight and astonishment so chained all his powers, that he remained unable to utter a word. At last, having taken time to breathe from his surprise, he cried, "Dost thou then live, my Lucia?" To which the virgin replied, "Yes, I do live, and a life of glory, never more to die. Cast off those fetters; carry them to my tomb, and there suspend them in witness of thy deliverance through my intercessions. Thank the eternal and all-merciful Lord, who has deigned to hear me for thy good. Answer with the goodness of thine after-life to that grace which hath relieved thy misery, which in a single moment, and at a time when thou least lookest for it, gave thee to thyself."

"Full of joy and confusion, he obeyed; and the fetters, which he
then

then hung up in testimony of the miracle over the tomb of St. Lucia, remained so firmly fixed to the wall, that no human force could ever move them afterwards.

“St. Lucia died in the year 1198, and her fame so enlightened the latter days of bishop Gerard, that, when he departed, the electors knew not how to express their admiration better than by appointing another of the same name to fill his vacant chair.”

MEMOIRS OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE OF THE CHEVALIER TIRABOSCHI.

GIROLAMO TIRABOSCHI, one of the most meritorious writers of the last century, was born at Bergamo, in the Venetian states, on the 18th December, 1731. He was son of Vincenzo, and Laura, both of the same family of Tiraboschi, and distant relations to one another. As soon as his youthful powers were unfolded, he was sent to the Jesuits' college at Monza, then enjoying the highest reputation; and when his course of education was completed, in 1746, the 16th year of his age, he entered into the order of that society.

We have no detailed account of our writer's pursuits during the years which immediately succeeded, but it may be supposed that he regularly went through the remainder of those studies which were deemed necessary to form an active individual of that order. We have, however, an authentic account that, about 1754, in the 23d year of his age, he became a teacher, and soon after, an author. He was appointed preceptor of grammar, and afterwards of rhetoric, in the college of Brera, at Milan. In that station, in 1755, he republished, for the use of his pupils, the well-known vocabulary of his late colleague, Father Mandosio, with a great many corrections and additions; and from 1756 to 1760 he wrote several orations and other fugitive pieces, in which a discerning mind might have perceived the bent of the author towards civil and literary history.

The epoch of Tiraboschi's residence in Milan was that, indeed, in which his genius for the two above-mentioned branches of pursuit was completely developed; but this developement, in all probability, proceeded from another cause. The college of Brera was endowed with a copious and valuable library; and this establishment was then under the care of an excellent librarian. During the time of his professorship, Tiraboschi was appointed assistant librarian; and it was under the direction of the former that he began to collect some original and valuable records from printed books and manuscripts; a circumstance which tends to evince that he was then meditating, under some shape or other, the plan of those works by which he afterwards became celebrated.

celebrated. It is certain that as a man of taste and of bibliographic research, he attracted the peculiar esteem of the illustrious Count Firmian, then Austrian plenipotentiary in Lombardy; and it is not improbable that he might have a share in the compilation of the detailed catalogue of the vast and curious library of that justly renowned patron of letters, which was afterwards published at Milan in eight 4to. volumes.

The first remarkable work of Tiraboschi, and that, indeed, which first procured him a great reputation, was the "*Vetera Humiliatorum Monumenta*," which he published at Milan in 1766, in 3 vols. 4to. The subject was truly interesting. It was a well-known fact in ecclesiastical history, that owing to the attempt of an humiliated monk, of the name of Farina, to assassinate the Archbishop of Milan, Charles Borromeo, (a truly great ornament of the clerical profession and of human nature) in 1571, the order had been suppressed by the relentless Pope, Pius V. In the history of the mechanic arts, it was also known that the humiliated monks, about the middle of the 13th century, had been the first to establish with success some woollen manufactures in Italy. But no one, perhaps, could ever have imagined that the subject would throw so much light on the ecclesiastical, civil, and literary history of the middle ages as it actually received from the notes and dissertations of Tiraboschi. The fame of the work was not confined to Italy; it soon passed the Alps; a proof of which was given by the abstract and eulogy of it in the *Transactions of the Learned of Leipsic*, p. 181, for the same year 1766.

We are now to notice a remarkable change which took place in the author's life, subsequently to this publication.

The Dukes of Ferrara and Modena, next to the members of the house of Medici, had always been the greatest patrons of learning and learned men in Italy. Either from accident or attention, they had also, perhaps, been the most fortunate among the Italian princes in the choice of the superintendants of their ducal library; since from Sigonio down to Granelli they had employed in that capacity some of the greatest men of their respective ages, among whom we must not pass in silence the immortal name of Muratori. In 1770, by the death of Granelli, the place had become vacant; and, upon the recommendation of the Count of Firmian, the reigning Duke of Modena, Francis III. appointed Tiraboschi to be the successor of the deceased librarian. His modesty at first led him to hesitate in accepting a place which had been occupied by so many men of eminence in literature; at length, however, the repeated solicitations of two of his colleagues, as well as of the first minister of his Serene Highness, induced him to comply; and accordingly, towards the middle of the year, he removed to Modena.

The subsequent year 1771 was that in which Tiraboschi published the first volume of his justly celebrated and certainly unrivalled work, the *History of Italian Literature*, to which he must have devoted many previous years of his life.

The

The literary history of any nation can never fail to be interesting; that of the countries in which science has flourished must be peculiarly so; but, among these countries, that of Italy was an especial desideratum. The amazing improvement which, since the close of the 17th century, the human mind had received in the civilized countries on this side of the Alps, was undeniable. It was as fully acknowledged that, far from still wielding the scientific sceptre, Italy had in the meantime dwindled to the third rank among the learned nations. But it was also apparent that the inhabitants of the two best informed of those nations (the French especially) disdained to acknowledge the Italians as the primary instructors of mankind, after the revival of learning. They were inclined either to deny the merit of the first discoveries in Italy, or to appropriate it to themselves, under a different garb. This illiberality, at the very beginning of the period to which we refer, had excited the indignation of the best informed and most impartial men in Europe; and it had been accordingly thought that the literary history of Italy would be a great benefit to the lettered world. Leibnitz, for example, had urged the celebrated Florentine librarian, Magliabecchi, to undertake the task. In Italy, the immense utility of a work of this kind was still more generally and more forcibly felt; and consequently, at the close of the 17th and the opening of the 18th century, many essays had been written on the subject, the last and best of which was that of Ginnani, published at Naples in 1723. But the glory of a systematic and finished work was reserved to Tiraboschi.

The first volume was rapidly followed by the second, and this successively by others, till the twelfth and last, which appeared in 1782. The author soon rose to the summit of literary fame: he appeared to possess uncommon penetration, prodigious learning, great industry, a refined spirit of criticism, and, to crown the whole, facility of composition and elegance of style. The work itself was considered as truly classical, and its utility was soon felt, not only in Italy, but all over Europe. In the same order as they appeared in Modena, the several volumes were soon republished in Florence, Rome, and Naples; two abridgments also were made of the work, one in France, another in Germany; and the literary reviews in every part of Europe seemed to want words to express their applause. Nor can this be a matter of surprise, when it is considered that the plan of the work was the most extensive that could be imagined. Schools, academies, museums, libraries, printing-offices, travellers, patrons, collectors, artists, and, in short, whatever was directly or indirectly connected with the history of the sciences and literature in Italy, had their appropriate places in this admirable performance. Some blemishes, indeed, have been remarked in it; but it may be still regarded as a model of the kind, and as an undertaking worthy in every respect of exciting national emulation.

The criticisms on the work, which appeared during the time of its publication, were not noticed by the author except when in his opinion they really tended to correct some mistakes into which he had fallen.

fallen. He happened, however, to be engaged on this account in a controversy with the Spanish ex-jesuit Lampillas, which made at the time too much noise in Italy not to deserve mention in the present memoir. Tiraboschi was of opinion that the Spaniards had been greatly instrumental in the corruption of taste in Italy; and, on this principle, he had in his work severely criticised Martial, Seneca, and Lucan, all Spaniards by birth. This excited the patriotic zeal of some of the Spanish ex-jesuits settled in Italy, and especially of Lampillas, who wrote an "Apologetic Essay on the Spanish Literature." The author answered; the other replied; and each, in fine, remained in his own opinion. Lampillas, however, was thought to have been somewhat deficient in temper and candour.

A work of such an extent as the history of the Italian literature seemed capable of exhausting the powers of one man, especially since during its publication Tiraboschi never ceased to fulfil with exactness the duties of his place as a librarian. He proved, however, that the love of labour, the spirit of order, and the pleasures of research conquer every difficulty; for his great work was not yet complete in 1781, when he began his "Modenese Library," or *Memoirs of the Modenese Writers*, in six 4to. volumes, the last of which appeared in 1786. This work alone, would have been competent to secure to the author the reputation of one of the ablest bibliographers in Europe. From the desire, however, of rendering it more complete, he was induced to join to it, in the sixth volume, several notices of painters, sculptors, engravers, architects, and even musicians, born in that state; and as he possessed neither accurate information nor a sound judgment on these objects, his work in this part proved notoriously defective.

Towards the middle of the period in which these volumes were making their appearance (in 1784) the author published another work nearly in the same line, which likewise met with the public approbation. The celebrated abbey of Nonantula, one of the noblest and richest pious foundations in northern Italy, was then governed by the prince Francis Maria, of Este, in the capacity of commendatory abbot; and this prelate, wishing to have a detailed and satisfactory history of his abbey, engaged Tiraboschi in the task. The history contained also the diplomatic code of the abbey, with notes and illustrations by the historian; the whole in 2 folio vols.

The last voluminous work of Tiraboschi was the "*Modenese Historical Memoirs*," which first appeared in 1793, in three 4to vols. It is a judicious selection of records relative to the bishops of Modena and to those of Reggio, to the family of Pio, lords of Carpi; that of Pico, princes of Mirandola; and to other distinguished persons who acted a part in the civil or ecclesiastical affairs of the Modenese state.

We have seen our author from 1771 to 1793 gradually publishing four voluminous works. But it was precisely during this interval that he presented also to the literary world a vast number of inferior performances, each of which would be sufficient, perhaps, to confer reputation.

putation on any author. As if he had foreseen the want of a general repository for all the tracts which might occasionally issue from his prolific pen, he undertook in 1773 a literary magazine and review, under the title of "Journal of Modena," a periodical work of which he was the perpetual editor, and which was carried on to the year 1790; the whole series in 43 volumes. It was in this miscellany that he inserted numberless very valuable papers, the most remarkable of which were, perhaps, his "Inquiries concerning the primitive discoverers of the Copernican system;" "the Manuscript Code of the Poetics of Vida;" "the Origin of the Art of Printing;" and "the Origin of Rhyme." It was also during that period of 22 years (in 1780 and 1789) that in separate works he published, among others, the "Life of the celebrated Poet and Statesman, Fulvio Testi," and some "Reflections on Genealogical Writers."

It was likewise during the same interval that he was promoted to higher literary and even civil honours, both by the Duke and the city of Modena. The last Duke, Hercules III. on his accession in 1780, gave to this illustrious writer a shining proof of his respect, by appointing him superintendant of the Cabinet of Medals, and by decorating him with the order of knighthood. The city in 1781 sent him the diploma of Modenese nobility, and declared him one of the *Conservatori*, with as many prerogatives and privileges as were enjoyed by the natives themselves: and, as if this liberality of the Modenese had excited the emulation of his townsmen, the city of Bergamo in 1785 ordered that his portrait, with a proper inscription, should be placed in the hall of the great council. It is almost superfluous to add, that during the same period he was nominated a member of the most distinguished academies in Italy.

We shall close the literary biography of Tiraboschi by observing that, as he was dissatisfied with all the republications which had been made of his History of Italian Literature, he thought proper to give a new one himself, with some corrections and additions. It appeared at Modena from 1787 to 1794, in 15 volumes in 4to. the only one which is now complete. The last volume has a table of contents, compiled by the author himself, with the minutest attention. The impression of the work was completed just before his death.

The Chevalier Tiraboschi died at Modena on the 3d June, 1794, in the 63d year of his age. His death was highly regretted by every friend of learning in Italy, and that regret was expressed in several letters written to his executors. After a solemn funeral, performed in the ducal church of St. Dominic, his remains were transferred to the parish church of St. Faustina, in the suburbs, in which a monument was erected by his heirs with the modest but dignified inscription—"Hyeronimus Tiraboschius, Atestinae Bibliothecae praefectus, de monumentis Italicae Literaturae optime meritus." His moral character was worthy of his literary fame. He left behind him some manuscript writings, which at some future period may perhaps be published. He had maintained an extensive correspondence with
some

some of the most eminent among his contemporaries, especially with Napioni, Zorzi, Bianconi, and Vanetti, all whose letters were digested by him in 28 volumes, represented as being full of valuable matter. A full account of him was given by his assistant in the library, the Abbé Ciocchi, first in two letters addressed to the Abbé Zaccaria, and then in the first volume of the last Modenese edition of the "History of Italian Literature." A still better account of him was read at a particular meeting of the Arcadi, by the Marquis Eugenio Guasco. Another still more detailed one was expected (we do not know whether it has appeared) from his successor in the superintendence of the library, Father Pozzetti, of the congregation of the Pious Schools. A methodical life of him was also inserted by Fabroni in the 18th volume of his valuable work, "*Vitæ Italarum doctrina excellentium.*"

F. D.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

WAR SONGS.

No. 1.

LADY, 'tis sweet at twilight hour,
 When curious eyes have pry'd in vain,
 To sit conceal'd in leafy bow'r,
 And softly sigh with am'rous pain,
 To her who softly sighs again,
 Whilst rival youths forgotten rove,
 And to-unconscious wilds complain
 Of faithful unrequited love:

But sweeter, Lady, sweeter far,
 Than leafy bow'r and loving dame,
 First in the bloody van of war
 To reap the victor's glorious fame,
 And hear a nation's loud acclaim,
 As gazing o'er his gory spoils,
 They hail their darling warrior's name,
 And bless his long triumphant toils.

W.

M—.

No. 2.

I MARK'D his madly rolling eye,
 I caught its furious blood-red flame,
 I saw their panic squadrons fly
 Where'er th' impetuous warrior came,
 With gleaming sword and waving plume,
 Like some wild meteor of the gloom.

Fiercer and fiercer wax'd the fight,
 And ruddier grew the field of gore;
 In vain I strain'd my aching sight,
 I mark'd his waving plume *no more* :
 In long unequal strife he bled,
 And mingled with the hostile dead.

And shall he thus unhonour'd lie,
 Nor know a grateful monarch's care?
 No, raise the mausoleum high,
 Place his sad sacred relics there,
 And, on recording marble, tell
 How my brave warrior fought and fell.

M—.

W.

 YOUTH AND AGE.
Youth.

NAY, chide not, old Grey-beard, at hearing me dwell
 On the theme of my raptures and fears—
 Nay, chide not!—the dream that you seek to dispel,
 Sheds light on the bloom of my years ;—
 Let me grasp, let me gather, the fugitive flowers
 That embellish the morn of my day,
 Let me quaff the rich sweets of these love-breathing hours,
 E'er the nectar hath passed away.

Age.

Fond fool!—heed my counsel—the counsel of one
 Who has prov'd the delusions of life,
 Who, wishing his wearisome pilgrimage done,
 Turns alike from its joys and its strife.
 What is that thou call'st rapture? a thing which the frowns
 Of an ingrate may melt into air;
 What is love but a sweet-bitter chalice that drowns
 The wits of the wise and the fair?

Youth.

Youth.

Ah! falsehood!—thou Cynic, I'll listen no more
 To the heart-freezing words of thy tongue;
 Farewell to the sage with his wisdom and lore,
 Who forgets that *he* once too was young!—
 Whose rancour would sully and poison the springs
 Of a bliss he no longer can taste,
 His glance o'er the bright earth who scowlingly flings,
 And cries, "'tis a desolate waste."

Age.

Yet stay—thoughtless railer!—yet heed me awhile
 E'er thou go'st on thy journey of pain—
 O stake not the peace of thy soul on a smile,
 If thy soul would its greatness retain;
 Turn back from those wilds that enamour thy sight,
 And the path of thy duties pursue,
 Quit the meteors of passion for truth's steady light,
 And bid Fancy a final adieu.

Youth.

Part with fancy! no, no!—I have worshipp'd her long,
 To *her* my first off'rings were made;
 Ah, ne'er from my bosom! ah! ne'er from my song,
 May the beam of her loveliness fade.
 And bid'st thou my steps from a Paradise go
 To the tame barren regions of truth?
 Ne'er shall they—I'll yet pluck the blossoms that grow
 On the sun-gilded uplands of youth.

Age.

And how wilt thou feel when the blush of thy prime
 Hath met the cold breath of decay—
 When bowing like me 'neath the rigours of time
 Thou waitest the close of thy day?
 What triumphs of virtue—what thoughts of the past
 To thee will rob death of its gloom?
 What deeds o'er thy name will a radiance cast
 That will shine thro' the night of the tomb?

Youth.

O Father! my Father! the spell is no more
 That around me its witchery spread—
 To the heights of renown do my proud wishes soar—
 I have dreamt—but my dreamings are fled;

And

And yet—'twas a vision so beauteous—I weep
That its graces so rapidly flew—
And am tempted to wish that the spirit of sleep
Would the dream of my transport renew.

Age.

Nay mourn not, my child, that the shadows are flown
Through which thy blind footsteps have trod;
Oh! scorn the vain toys that thy soul hath outgrown,
And arise at the voice of thy God!
He bids thee the race of thy virtue begin,
E'er time shall have silver'd thine hair;
He bids thee—he bids ev'ry pilgrim of sin
For the day of his judgment prepare.

Youth.

Yet hold! gloomy Mentor—soft whispers descend
To mine ear from the mansions above—
They tell me the task of my labours to blend
With the sweet smile of soul-wedded love.
Return then, dear guest! and thy station resume
In the folds of this sensitive heart,
There dwell—till the chills of the mouldering tomb
Command thee *again* to depart.

LAURA SOPHIA TEMPLE.

MORNING AND EVENING.

A FRAGMENT.

THE glowing Morning, crown'd with youthful roses,
Bursts on the world in virgin sweetness smiling,
And as she treads, the waking flowers expand,
Shaking their dewy tresses. Nature's choir
Of untaught minstrels blend their various powers
In one grand anthem, emulous to salute
Th' approaching king of day, and vernal Hope
Jocund trips forth to meet the healthful breeze,
To mark th' expanding bud, the kindling sky,
And join the general pæan.
While, like a matron, who has long since done
With the gay scenes of life, whose children all
Have sunk before her on the lap of earth—
Upon whose mild expressive face the sun
Has left a smile that tells of former joys—
Grey Eve glides on in pensive silence musing.

As

As the mind triumphs o'er the sinking frame,
 So as her form decays, her starry beams
 Shed brightening lustre, till on Night's still bosom
 Serene she sinks, and breathes her peaceful last.
 While on the rising breeze sad melodies,
 Sweet as the notes that soothe the dying pillow,
 When angel-music calls the saint to heaven,
 Come gently floating; 'tis the requiem
 Chaunted by Philomel for day departed.

A.D.

LITERARY AND MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION.

Mr. Park's edition of Warton's History of English Poetry is in a state of great forwardness. The editor's pen is not only to revise both text and notes, and free the extracts from the charge of inaccuracy, to which they have hitherto been subjected, but also to supply a continuation in furtherance of Mr. Warton's plan. The very copious Annotations on Warton's History, by the late learned Antiquary, the Rev. George Ashby, together with various MS. Observations, left by that acute critic, Mr. Ritson, are in the hands of the present editor, and so far as the purposes of correction and illustration can be served, will be appended to the notes of Mr. Warton.

The Rev. Mr. Dibdin is just gone to press with his first volume of the new edition of Ames's Typographical Antiquities, by Herbert. This will probably be exclusively devoted to Caxtonian literature and bibliography. Lewis's Life of Caxton, a very scarce book, will be included in it; and the notes subjoined will comprehend a considerable part of the history of foreign and English literature of the fifteenth century. Prefixed will be the Lives of Ames and Herbert; and a Dissertation on the Introduction of the Arts of Printing and Engraving into this country, illustrated with fac-simile wood-cuts. All the large paper copies of this first volume are, we understand, bespoken: of the small paper only a limited number will be struck off. One single (and therefore unique) copy will be printed UPON VELLUM of a super-royal folio size; which is intended to exhibit as brilliant a specimen of modern printing as has yet been produced. This copy is afterwards to be illuminated and adorned with appropriate ornaments of the richest colors. Among them, portraits, flowers, Greek and Etruscan borders, &c.

A Society of Physicians in London has been engaged for some time past in collecting materials for a new work, to be entitled, the "Annual Medical Register." They propose to comprise in one volume a complete account of the Medical Literature of the preceding year, together with an historical sketch of the discoveries and improvements in Medicine and the collateral Sciences; a report of the general state of Health and Disease in the metropolis; and a brief detail of such miscellaneous occurrences within the same period as may be deemed worthy of record. The volume for 1808 is now in the press, and will be published with all possible expedition.

Mr. Saunders, Surgeon of the London Infirmary for curing Diseases of the Eye, and Demonstrator of Anatomy at St. Thomas's Hospital, purposes in the course of a few months to publish a Tract on some select practical points relating to Diseases of the Eye, and particularly on the nature of the Cataract in persons born blind, and the method which he has for a long time pursued with uniform success for the cure of such cases at the earliest periods and even in Infancy.

Proposals have been issued by John Lloyd, of Cefnfaes Maentwrog, Merionethshire,

onethshire, for publishing by subscription, in two volumes octavo, a work entitled "The Records of North Wales;" consisting of all the state papers relating to that part of the Principality; the correspondence between the ancient Welsh Princes and the English Court; grants to the different borough towns; ancient letters relating to the state or affairs of the Principality, or respecting some conspicuous part of it, as its castles, &c. the articles of capitulation of castles in the civil wars; grants of lands to any other public bodies, as to the monks of any particular monastery, &c. &c.; list of the sheriffs of the six counties from the first appointment by statute to the present time; and, in short, every document that will throw light on the history of former times, as to North Wales, or any public part of it; arranged and digested in proper order, with notes historical and explanatory.

Mr. Rylance is composing a Romance, to be entitled "Francesco; or, the Fool of Genius." It is founded on the extraordinary life of Mazzuoli, celebrated as a painter by the name of Parmegiano.

Mr. Renouard, of Trinity College, Cambridge, will publish in the course of the Spring a Treatise on Spherical Trigonometry.

Mr. M. Murfitt, of Cambridge, is about to publish an Essay on the Life and Character of Agesilaus, Son of Archidamus.

Mr. Campbell's new poem, Gertrude of Wyoming, or the Pennsylvanian Cottage, is on the eve of publication.

A History of the Germanic Empire, from the pen of Mr. Smith, of Dublin, will shortly be given to the public.

Mr. Bingley is about to publish Memoirs of British Quadrupeds, to be followed by Memoirs of Fishes, &c.

Proposals have been issued by Mr. Hilditch, for publishing by subscription, a History of the Antiquities of Tamworth.

Mr. Martin (who has been diligently employed in the study of extraneous Fossils for some years back) is about to publish, under the patronage of Sir Joseph Banks, a quarto volume of Plates and Descriptions of the Petrifications of Derbyshire. A work, by the same Author, has just been printed off, containing an Elementary Introduction to the Knowledge of extraneous Fossils—an attempt to establish the study of these bodies on scientific principles. It forms an octavo volume, and will be given to the public in the course of the succeeding month.

A correspondent has favoured us with the following account of the appearance of the Floating Island in Derwentwater:

"The floating island which has emerged from the bottom of Derwentwater only three times in the course of about thirty years, or which, according to other accounts, is said to be in the habit of repeating its visits after an interval of seven or nine years, appeared above the surface last summer. It began to submerge on the 20th July, and in a very short time appeared above the surface. It is situated at the head of Keswick Lake, about a stone cast from the shore. It contains about an acre of ground, and is quite stationary.

At first it was of a dark brown colour, but soon became covered with verdure. By thrusting a pole in several places, to the depth of three yards, the water rushed up; consequently it is of that thickness, and unconnected with the bottom. That it is also entirely unconnected with the shore is evident, as boats sailed entirely round it, and sounded with long poles, without finding a bottom (the writer sailed round the island the 24th July). It is of an oblong shape, and in the middle of it is a large hole, about eight yards long and two yards broad; this hole has evidently been made by the confined rarified air. The depth of soil composing it is in some parts two feet, in others more; and in forcing a stick through it at different places, air arose in large bubbles; and as this confined air escapes, the island, I conceive, lessens, and at length sinks by its own weight, to become again the bottom of the lake. Its sides adhere to the neighbouring soil with a steep descent, except at one corner, about six yards in length, which appears like a bank. This bank has actually been the remains of the sides of a hole of a former island, for these temporary islands are found to change their position at every appearance; and the island I am attempting

attempting to describe is somewhat nearer the shore than former ones have been.

It may be interesting to some of your readers to be informed of the species of vegetation that grow upon and cover the surface of the island: they are the *Lobelia dortmanna*, the *Isoetes lacustris*, and the *Littorella lacustris*; though I have reason to believe the last-mentioned plant is less abundant than the former. Another observer discovered the *Arundo phragmites* and the *Scirpus lacustris* growing on the southern end of the island.

A secondary island made its appearance about the same time, at some distance from the principal one, and nearer the shore, of a circular form, about eight yards in diameter, and divided completely in two by a rent about three feet wide and three yards deep, reaching to a considerable distance on each side of this island, and evidently being one of those numerous cracks which may always be discovered in the bottom of this part of the lake, and through which, I presume, is a communication of the waters beneath with those above.

The island gradually sunk during some weeks, till the night of Friday, the 7th Oct. when, in consequence of rain, the lake rose about five feet, and the island was covered with water.

The lake was above a foot higher on the 7th Aug. than on the 1st of Oct. and yet the island was larger in extent and higher above the water on the former day.

MONTHLY LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

The New Cyclopædia, or Universal Dictionary of Arts, Sciences, and Literature, formed upon a more enlarged plan of arrangement than the Dictionary of Mr. Chambers, comprehending the various articles of that work, with additions and improvements, together with the new subjects of Biography, Geography, and History, and adapted to the present state of literature and science. By Abraham Rees, D.D. F.R.S. Vol. 12, part 1. 1l.

The British Encyclopædia, or Dictionary of Arts and Sciences; comprising an accurate and popular view of the present improved state of human knowledge. By William Nicholson, author and proprietor of the Philosophical Journal, and various other Chemical, Philosophical, and Mathematical Works. 6 vols. 8vo. 6l. 6s. boards.

BIOGRAPHY.

Memoirs of William Paley, D.D. By G. Meadley. To which is added, an Appendix. 8vo. 9s. boards.

Memoirs of the Life and Writings of the late Rev. W. Wood, F.L.S. and Minister of the Protestant Dissenting Chapel at Mill-Hill, Leeds. To which are subjoined, an Address, delivered at his Interment, and a Sermon on occasion of his Death, with a Profile. By Charles Wellbeloved. 8vo. 6s. boards.

The Lives of the Reformers. By Wm. Gilpin, M.A. A new edition. 2 vols. 8vo. 18s. boards.

The Life of Peter the Great, Emperor of Russia, including the History of the Russian Empire during his reign, with an historical Sketch of the most important Events during that period. By M. De Voltaire. A new edit. 12mo. 6s. boards.

EDUCATION.

An English Grammar; comprehending the Principles and Rules of the Language. Illustrated by appropriate Exercises, and a Key to the Exercises. By Lindley Murray. 2 vols. 8vo. 1l. 1s. boards.

MEDICINE.

Anatomico-Chirurgical Views of the Nose, Mouth, Larynx, and Fauces; with appropriate Explanations and References. By John James Watt, Surgeon. Together with an additional Anatomical Description of the Parts, by Mr.

Mr. W. Lawrence, Demonstrator of Anatomy at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. The engravings executed by Mr. Hopwood, from original Drawings by Mr. T. Baxter. Folio, price 1l. 11s. 6d. plain, or 2l. 2s. coloured.

Practical Observations on the Inoculation of Cow Pox, pointing out a new Mode of obtaining and preserving the Infection, and also a certain Test of perfect Vaccination. Illustrated by Cases and Plates. 2d edition, with an Appendix, containing additional Observations, together with a Plan for extinguishing the Contagion of the Small Pox in the British Empire, and for rendering the Vaccine Inoculation general and effectual. By James Bryce, F.R.S. Edin. 8vo. 9s. boards.

The Physician's Vade-Mecum; containing the Symptoms, Causes, Diagnosis, Prognosis, and Treatment of Diseases, accompanied by a select Collection of Formulæ, and a Glossary of Terms. By Robert Hooper, M.D. Fools-cap 8vo. 6s. boards.

MILITARY.

Essays on the Theory and Practice of the Art of War; including the Duties of Officers on actual Service, and the Principles of Modern Tactics. Chiefly translated from the best French and German Writers, and illustrated by numerous Engravings. By the Editor of the Military Mentor. 3 vols. 8vo. 1l. 16s. boards.

The Military Cabinet; being a Collection of Extracts from the best Authors, both ancient and modern; interspersed with occasional Remarks, and arranged under different heads. The whole calculated to convey Instruction in the most agreeable manner, and to give to young Officers correct notions in regard to many subjects belonging to or connected with the Military Profession. By Capt. T. H. Cooper, Half-pay 56th Regt. Infantry. 3 vols. 12mo. 18s.; large paper, 1l. 7s.

MINERALOGY.

Outlines of Mineralogy. By J. Kidd, M.D. Professor of Chemistry in the University of Oxford. 2 vols. 8vo. 18s. boards.

MISCELLANIES.

The Imperial and Royal Cook; consisting of the most sumptuous Made Dishes, &c. foreign and English. By Frederick Nutt. 12mo. 6s. boards.

An Essay on Sepulchres; or, a Proposal for erecting some Memorial of the Illustrious Dead in all Ages on the Spot where their Remains have been interred. By William Godwin. Fools-cap 8vo. 4s. boards.

The Introduction to an Examination of the Internal Evidence respecting the Antiquity and Authenticity of certain Publications, said to have been found in Manuscripts at Bristol, written by a Learned Priest and others in the Fifteenth Century. By John Sherwen, M.D. Member of the College of Physicians, and of the College of Surgeons, and Corresponding Member of the Medical Society, London. 8vo. 7s. boards.

Cælebs in search of a Wife. The second edition. 2 vols. 8vo. 12s. boards.

Debates in both Houses of Parliament, in the Months of May and June 1808, relative to the Agreement made by Government with Mr. Palmer, for the Reform and Improvement of the Post-Office and its Revenue; with an Appendix, containing the several Documents therein referred to. 8vo. 5s. sewed.

The Annual Review and History of Literature, Vol. 7, for 1808. Royal 8vo. 1l. 1s. boards.

The London Review, conducted by R. Cumberland, Esq. No. 1, for Feb. 1809. To be published Quarterly. 5s.

The Exposé; or, Buonaparte unmasked, in a condensed Statement of his Career and Atrocities, accompanied with Notes. Crown 8vo. 6s. boards.

The Works of the late Right Hon. Henry St. John Lord Viscount Bolingbroke; with the Life of Lord Bolingbroke, by Dr. Goldsmith, now enlarged by more recent Information relative to his public and personal Character. Selected from various Authorities. 8 vols. 8vo. 3l. 12s. boards.

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A View of the Natural, Political and Commercial Circumstances of Ireland. By Thomas Newenham, Esq. Author of Inquiry into the Progress and Magnitude of the Population of Ireland. 4to. 1l. 7s. boards.

Select Papers of the Belfast Literary Society; containing a Memoir of Fiorin Grass, by W. Richardson, D. D.; and Relation of an Aerostatic Voyage, by Mons. Gay Lusac. 2 parts, 4to. 5s.

NATURAL HISTORY AND BOTANY.

General Zoology; or Systematic Natural History. With Plates. By George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. Vol. VII. 2l. 12s. 6d. boards; royal, 3l. 16s. boards.

Zoological Lectures, delivered at the Royal Institution. By George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. With Plates, &c. 2 vols. 8vo. 2l. 12s. 6d.; royal, 3l. 16s. bds.

The English Botanist's Pocket Companion; containing the essential Generic Characters of every British Plant, arranged agreeably to the Linnean system; together with a short and easy Introduction to the Study of Botany, and an Explanation of the Principles upon which the Classification of the System is founded. By James Dede. 12mo. 4s. boards.

NOVELS.

Ella St. Laurence; or, the Village of Selwood and its Inhabitants. By Mrs. Isaacs. 4 vols. 12mo. 1l. 2s.

The Soldier's Orphan: a Tale. By Mrs. Costello. 3 vols. 12mo. 13s. 6d. boards.

Amelie Mansfield. Par Mad. Cottin. 3 tom. 12mo. 18s. sewed.

The Forest of Comalva; containing Sketches of Portugal, Spain, and part of France. By Mary Hill. 3 vols. 12mo. 15s. boards.

POETRY.

The Remains of Hesiod, the Ascrean. Translated from the Greek into English Verse. With a Preliminary Dissertation and Notes. By Charles Abraham Elton. 12mo. 12s. boards. To which are added, Specimens of the obsolete Version of Hesiod's Georgics, by George Chapman.—* It is singular that an author so valuable for the picture of ancient manners which his works exhibit, should for nearly a century have been only known to the English reader, through the medium of Cooke's imperfect translation. The present work includes the curious fragment of the Shield, which is still a desideratum in our literature.

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A Discourse, addressed to the Congregation assembling in Mill-hill Chapel, Leeds, on Sunday, October 30, 1808, on accepting the Pastoral Office in that place. By Thomas Jervis. Price 1s. 6d.

Two Sermons, preached on the first day of Jan. 1809, at Hanover-street Chapel, and on the 8th of the same month at Worship-street Chapel. By Joseph Nightingale. 8vo. 1s. 6d.

An Introduction to the Study of Scripture. 12mo. 3s. 6d. boards.

Scripture Characters; or, a Practical Improvement of the principal Histories in the Old and New Testament. By Thomas Robinson, M. A. A new edit. 4 vols. 12mo. 1l. 2s. boards.

VOL. V.

2 K

METEOROLOGICAL

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

		Wind.	Pressure.		Temp.		Evap.	Rain, &c
			max.	min.	max.	min.		
New Moon	Jan. 16	E	30.12	30.07	30°	25°		
	17	E	30.07	29.94	30	18		
	18	E	29.87	29.77	28	19		
	19	Var.	29.53	29.48	30	23		
	20	N	29.50	29.43	33	31		
	21	Var.	29.54	29.14	35	31		
	22	Var.	29.65	29.08	35	19		
1st Qr.	23	Var.	29.73	29.44	33	27		
	24	W	29.45	29.40	45	34	.15	1.89
	25	SW	29.82	29.47	48	36	5	.27
	26	SW		29.18	51	40		
	27	SW	29.55		52	46	.18	
	28	S	29.55	29.22	56	47	.14	
	29	W	29.36	28.93	53	43	.15	1
	30	W	29.75	28.70	51	37	.12	.23
Full Moon	31	S	29.94	29.76	50	37	4	
	Feb. 1	SW	29.76	29.52	54	48	.14	
	2	SW	29.52	29.20	51	49		
	3	SW	29.40	29.20	55	44	.19	.12
	4	SW	29.45	29.37	51	41	7	7
	5	SW	29.43	29.37	51	41	8	.23
	6	SW	29.93	29.30	51	38	.10	.12
	7	E	30.00	29.90	39	33	.10	
Last Qr.	8	E	29.90	29.40	44	33	5	.25
	9	SE	29.31	29.29	54	44	9	1
	10	S	29.29	29.11	52	44	.14	2
	11	SW	28.85	28.75	51	42	.11	7
	12	SW	28.80	28.70	51	40	.10	8
	13	SW	29.20	28.80	53	43	.14	1
			29.58	29.31	45.41	36.31	T. 2.14	3.38
			M. 29.44		40.86			

N.B. The Notations comprised in each line relate to a period of 24 hours, reckoned from 9 a. m. on the day of the date. A dash denotes that the period so marked is to form a part of that allotted to the next observation.

REMARKS.

The period we are now reporting is so extraordinary in its character, that we must exchange the usual form of Notes for a continued narration.

The wind has been very inconstant, though the greatest quantity of air has undoubtedly flowed from the S. W. The movements of the Barometer have been, in like manner, desultory, and the *Mean* much lower than for a considerable time past: there have been, moreover, some great and pretty sudden depressions. The Temperature (after the thaw) was very high for the season, and the Evaporation and Precipitation great.

The New Moon was very conspicuous on the 17th, the whole disk appearing, well defined. A brilliant small meteor descended on the S. E. horizon about 6 p.m. On this and the preceding day the snow exhibited its beautiful blue and pink shades at sun-set, and there was a strong evaporation from its surface. I found a circular area, of 5 inches diameter, to lose 150 grains Troy, from sun-set on the 15th to sun-rise next morning, and about 50 grains more by the following sun-set; the gauge being exposed to a smart breeze on the house-top. The curious reader may hence compute, for himself, the enormous quantity raised in those 24 hours, without any visible liquefaction, from an acre of snow: the effects of the load thus given to the air were soon perceptible. On the 18th, though the Moon was still conspicuous, the Horns of the Crescent were obtuse. On the 19th appeared the Cirrus cloud, followed by the Cirro-Stratus. In the afternoon a freezing shower from the Eastward double-glazed the windows, encrusted the walls, and encased the trees, the garments of passengers, and (it is said) the very plumage of the birds with ice. Its composition, which I examined on a sheet of paper, was no less curious than these effects. It consisted of hollow spherules of ice, filled with water, of transparent globules of hail, and of drops of water at the point of freezing, which became solid on touching the bodies they fell on. The Thermometer exposed from the window indicated 30°, 5. It was followed by a moderate fall of snow. From this time to the 24th we had variable winds and frequent falls of snow, which came down on the 22d in flakes as large as dollars, with sleet at intervals. On the 24th a steady rain from W. decided for a thaw. This and the following night proved stormy: the melted snow and rain making about 2 inches depth of water on the level, descended suddenly by the rivers, and the country was inundated to a greater extent than in the year 1795. The river Lea continued rising the whole of the 26th, remained stationary during the 27th, and returned into its bed in the course of the two following days. The various channels by which it intersects this part of the country were united in one current, above a mile in width, which flowed with great impetuosity, and did much damage. From breaches in the banks and mounds, the different *levels*, as they are termed, of embanked pasture land, were filled to the depth of eight or nine feet. The cattle, by great exertions, were preserved, being mostly in the stall; and the inhabitants, driven to their upper rooms, were relieved by boats plying under the windows. The Thames was so full during this time, that no tide was perceptible; happily, however, its banks suffered no injury; the evacuation of the water from the levels has in consequence proceeded with little interruption, and is now pretty fully effected. No lives were lost in these parts. Several circumstances concurred to render this inundation less mischievous than it might have been, from the great depth of snow on the country. It was the time of *neap* tide; the wind blew strongly from the *westward*, urging the water down the Thames; to which add moonlight nights, and a temperate atmosphere, both very favourable to the poor, whose habitations were filled with water.

On the 28th appeared a Lunar *Halo* of the largest diameter. On the 29th, after a fine morning, the wind began to blow hard from the South, and during the whole night of the 30th it raged with excessive violence from the West, doing considerable damage. The Barometer rose, during this hurricane, one-tenth of an inch per hour. The remainder of the Moon was stormy and wet,
and

and it closed with squally weather; which, with the frequent appearance of the Rainbow, indicated the approach of a drier atmosphere, a change on few occasions within our recollection more desirable.

RESULTS.

Prevailing Wind, South-west.

Mean height of Barometer	-	29.44 In.
Thermometer		40.86°
Evaporation	- - - -	2.14 In.
Rain and Snow	- - - -	3.38 In.

L. H.

Plaistow, 23d of 2d mo. 1809.

RESULTS of a METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER kept at MANCHESTER in the Year 1808, by Mr. HANSON.

Mean annual press. of Barom. 29.69—Max. 30.58—Min. 28.70—Range, 1.88 in.
temperature . 49.10—Max. 84°—Min. 18°—Range, 66°

WIND.

N. & N. E.	E. & S. E.	S. & S. W.	W. & N. W.
170	160	234	287

Stormy Days 38—Number of Observations 851.

Quantity of Rain, 27.095 inches.—Wet Days, 143. Driest Month, March; Hottest, October.

RESULTS of a METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER kept at MALTON, in the Year 1808.

Mean annual press. of Barom. 29.87—Max. 30.94—Min. 28.40—Range, 2.54 in.
temperat. nearly 48°—Max. 93°—Min. 8°—Range, 85°.

Rain, &c. 43.730 inches.—Number of wet Days, 136; stormy, 39.

WIND.

N. & N. E.	E. & S. E.	S. & S. W.	W. & N. W.
263	216	278	331

Total number of Observations, 1088.—Prevailing Winds, North and West.

The most prominent features of the Year 1808, and the most worthy of remark, were the following: The heavy falls of Snow and high Winds in the *Winter Season*, the dryness and unusual retardation of that of *Spring*, together with the high temperature which characterized its commencement and continuance. Notwithstanding the quantity of Rain was considerable in the *Summer Months*, yet this period was chiefly dry and warm; and though Thunder Storms were frequent, and in some parts of the island were very violent, at this place and neighbourhood they were comparatively trifling and of short duration. The weather, from the introduction of the *Autumnal Season* to the close of the Year, was wet and windy; and the present *Winter*, though much later in its commencement than in 1807, began with uncommon severity.

The *driest* Months were February and March; and the *wettest*, October and November; though the heaviest falls of Rain took place in July.

J. S. STOCKTON.

Malton, Jan. 15, 1809.

RESULTS

RESULTS of METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER at MALTON in January.

Mean height of Barom. 29.45—Highest, 30.00—Lowest, 28.57—Range, 1.43 in.
Therm. 30.88°—Highest, 49°—Lowest, 19°—Range, 30°
Rain, &c. 3.64 inches.

WIND.

N.	E.	N.E.	S.E.	S.	W.	S.W.	N.W.	Var.
0	6	5	5	2	4	3	2	4

This Month was chiefly cloudy and frosty, with much Snow. The continued heavy Rains towards the middle part of the period, added to the uncommonly great falls of Snow, caused a great inundation, which in these and various other parts of the country occasioned considerable damage.

J. S. STOCKTON.

Malton, Jan. 11th, 1809.

INTELLIGENCE

RELATIVE TO ARTS, MANUFACTURES, &c.

Second communication on the advantages of Coal Gas Lights, by Mr. B. Cook of Birmingham. Phil. Journ. V. 22. P. 145.

Mr. Cook observes, that a person who does not use lamps, (for soldering by the blow-pipe) may, on striking the cost of oil and cotton out of the former computation, falsely suppose that there is little advantage in the use of coal gas lights. But when (soldering) lamps are not used, a large expense may be saved in this process, for one of these lamps consumes as much gas as twelve gas lights, each equal to that of a candle. On this account the saving will be the same as before stated, or nearly so, as in this case less gas will be wanting, less coal will be consumed, and the man or boy who makes the gas, will be required to make it but two or three times a week, instead of every day, which must be done when the gazometer is small, and (soldering) lamps used. The expense of the man may be struck out of the computation entirely, when the gas is wanted for light alone, for in most manufactories an old man or a boy, is kept to do jobs and go on errands, and he will be able to attend the gas apparatus, and do all his other business besides. Or the industrious man who works in his own shop may do it himself, as the trouble is little, only filling the retort with coals, and keeping up the fire under it.

Mr. Cook corrects his former recommendation of old gun barrels for pipes to convey the gas, and now thinks that lead pipes will be preferable, particularly the patent kind, which can be drawn out in lengths of fifteen or twenty feet, because the gun-barrels require numerous joints, which are with difficulty kept tight, and wherever the gas escapes, it causes a very disagreeable smell, besides being wasted; but lead pipes of the kind mentioned, will require but few joints even in the most extensive manufactories, they will therefore be less liable to leak, and if leaks should occur they are easily closed by solder. Their bore can be made greater than that of gun barrels, which is an advantage; they can easily be bent round angles; and if a man should give over trade, or have occasion to remove his manufactory, lead pipes can be easily shifted to the new situation, or they may be sold as old lead for a great part of the original cost; they can also be put up in less than half the time in which old gun barrels can be fixed.

Where light only is required, Mr. Cook makes the following statement of expenses.

DR.				CR.						
Coal for twenty weeks at one shilling and three pence	-	l. 1	5	0	Light for twenty weeks (equal to twenty candles at 1s. 8d. for each candle.)	-	l. 18	0	0	
Interest (for cost of apparatus)	1	5	0		Coke	-	-	12	6	
Saving	-	-	16	2	6					
			l. 18	12	6			l. 18	12	6

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The apparatus will not cost more than twenty or twenty-five pounds, and less than half the quantity of coals stated in the former computation, will be fully sufficient: and although the light produced is valued at that of twenty candles, yet, with only using a little more coal, it might be made equal to twenty-five or thirty candles. So that the above statement of profit is rather less than what it really would be.

Mr. Cook observes, that the gas which escapes, or is not properly purified, causing a disagreeable smell, has occasioned gas lights to be objected to by several, but he is of opinion that the use of the gas so far from being noxious, is very wholesome; and founds his opinion on the acknowledged salubrity of the vapour of pitch and tar, which are burnt to prevent contagion, and on the fact of epidemic complaints being scarce ever experienced in those manufacturing towns where much coal is burned, and which, from the crowded state of the manufactories, and the dirtiness of the workmen, would otherwise frequently occur. The gas also on the same principle, he imagines, will purify the air of workshops, and prevent the inconvenience of the bad air, so often complained of when they are crowded.

The use of coal gas in manufactories, has not yet been sufficiently tried, to furnish any decided facts as to its effect on the health of the work-people, but as no complaints have been hitherto made on this ground, it is probable that the coal gas will be found not worse in this respect than common candles. We think, however, Mr. Cook is too sanguine in considering it as a promoter of health. The great quantity of oxygen which it consumes in burning, must lessen the proportion of that in the air of close rooms; the carbonic acid thus largely formed entering into the lungs, at least occupies the space of so much respirable air, if it does no other injury, and the unburned gas which escapes, on being breathed, divides the remaining oxygen with the lungs, in their absorption of it necessary for life, especially if it contains sulphuretted hydrogen which it almost always does. By these effects altogether, the oxygenation of the blood will be diminished, and though sudden death or violent distemper will not ensue, or epidemic complaints suddenly fill the church-yards, yet the health must suffer more or less. It is highly probable, that the chief cause of the superior wholesomeness of the air of the country to that of the city, arises from its being free from any mixture of those gases, which at the temperature of the human body absorb oxygen: and that, on the contrary, much of the debility of the constitution complained of in cities, originates from the contamination of the air by gases of this description, which abound in it from several causes. These opinions founded on chemical facts, are, however, not to be considered as being sanctioned by the faculty, the writer not having the honour to belong to that respectable body.

The effect observed by Mr. Cook, of coal burned in large quantities in preventing infection, is not perfectly certain, though some facts give great weight to the opinion. It is well known, that the disappearance of the plague, and the general use of coal in London, took place about the same time: but many improvements highly conducive to health, were effected in the city at that period; pipe water was supplied plentifully; sewers to carry off filth, were every where constructed; brick houses superseded those of wood; the streets were enlarged, paved, and kept clean, and lastly, though not least, a general fashion of great attention to cleanliness, was introduced among all ranks.

The great effect of the acid gases in preventing contagion, which has been noticed more than once before in this work, might give some cause to suppose that those furnished by burning coal had this property also: it certainly affords one acid, which burning wood does not, but this acid, which is the sulphurous acid, is given out in such small quantities, that it could hardly produce the effect, especially as in this respect, it is much inferior to the three mineral acids used for this purpose. The use of burning tar or pitch, as a preventive of contagion, is extremely doubtful, and will probably be ranked soon among those remedies, which owed their apparent efficacy to attending circumstances, which were overlooked, and which superior intelligence has consigned to merited oblivion.

On the superiority of Platina for making the Balance Springs of Watches, by Mr. James Scott. Phil. Journ. V. 22. P. 148.

Mr. Scott states that he has found Platina to be superior to every other metal for the construction of the balance springs of watches, on account of the small degree in which it is affected by the common variations of temperature in its length. When properly drawn it possesses sufficient elasticity for any extent of vibration, and it coils extremely well. When a spring of platina is coiled on a flat piece of metal, and one of its ends made fast, the least protrusion of the other extremity is not visible on the application of heat. Mr. Scott also finds this metal to be superior to steel for compensation curbs.

The platina used for these purposes should not be consolidated by arsenic, as this renders it liable to expansion.

It is probable that platina might be applied to advantage in the construction of wheels for watches as well as springs. The oil used with platina wheels, would remain fluid much longer than with the metals now used for this purpose, as platina has no action on oil; and this would be a material improvement, as much of the irregularity of watches depends on the thickening of the oil.

Platina might also be used advantageously for a number of articles in common use. For fruit knives, and spoons for those substances which discolour silver, it would be particularly proper. Any artist who would make them for sale, would find it to be to his profit, and at the same time confer a benefit on the public.

Account of works constructed for the manufacture of Mineral Tar, Pitch, and Varnish. Trans. Soc. Arts. V. 9.

Three considerable works were erected in Staffordshire on the banks of the canal, for the purpose of procuring tar, pitch, and varnish from coal. One at Bradley, another at Tipton, and the third at the level colliery and iron-works at Dudley wood.

These tar-works are erected in the vicinity of collieries and iron-works. The masters of these works furnish the tar-works with coals, for the coak which they produce; and leave the products of the process to the proprietors of the tar-works, which are managed as follows.

A range of eighteen or twenty stoves is erected, and supplied with coal kept burning at the bottom. The smoke is conducted by proper horizontal tunnels, into a capacious closed funnel, of more than one hundred yards in length; this funnel is built with brick, supported by brick arches, and has a shallow pond of water formed on its top, which is filled when required by a steam-engine belonging to the iron works. The cold of the water condenses the smoke which falls on the floor of the funnel in the form of tar, and is conveyed by pipes into a receiver, from whence it is pumped into a large boiler, and boiled to a proper consistence, or else it is inspissated into pitch, in which case the vapour which arises during this inspissation is condensed into an oil, used for varnish.

No smoke is let to go to waste in these works, except a very little from some small funnels, which are kept open to give draught to the fires.

The process requires but little attendance, the principal labour being that of supplying the fuel. In one of the tar-works twenty tons of coals are used each day, and three labourers with a foreman are sufficient for the business; from this work about twenty-eight barrels of tar, of 2½ cwt. are produced in six days, or twenty-one barrels of pitch of the same weight; some coal is so bituminous, as to yield one eighth of its weight of tar, but the above is the average produce.

In hilly countries, the stoves may be erected at the foot of the hill, and the condensing funnel higher up, streams of water may in such situations be often

often found which can be made to supply the pond over the funnel without pumping.

The high price of pitch, tar, and oil of turpentine, and the difficulty of procuring these articles, which are of prime importance to the maritime concerns of this kingdom, will, we hope, render this extract from the transactions of the society of arts acceptable: though a long period has elapsed since its first publication, yet many are still unacquainted with the circumstances here related, and it is evidently of importance, that the method of constructing such works should be circulated as much as possible.

This mode of extracting tar was contrived by Lord Dundonald, who obtained a patent for it in 1781, which was by act of parliament extended to the term of twenty years from 1785, so that it terminated three years ago.

The Society of Arts interested themselves on the subject, with a view to have the smoke from steam-engines converted to tar; which alone could furnish tar for the whole consumption of Europe, as some of them consume no less than 100 tons of coals each week, and the quantity varies from this to 25 tons; and great numbers of them are now erected in every part of the kingdom.

We have before stated in former numbers, the advantage of coal tar in preserving ships from the worms. It was supposed that the oil or varnish procured in the above process would serve for painting in place of oil of turpentine, but we are informed, it is deficient in the drying quality, which renders the latter so useful in painting. It is doubtlessly possible, by some chemical process to give the coal varnish this quality, but some difficulty even then would attend its introduction, as most tradesmen have an inconceivable aversion to use any new articles.

Oil of turpentine is at present so extremely dear, that several master painters have discharged their workmen in consequence, many of whom are now in great distress.

Account of an economical method of evaporating the water of the Brins Springs, used at the Salt works of Moutiers. By Mr. H. Lelievre, Engineer of Mines, &c. Journal des Mines, N. 120.

The richest of the springs indicates 1°,32 of saltiness on the areometer, and the poorest 1°,5. The brine is conveyed in troughs from them to a large reservoir, where it is left to settle, and thence it passes through other troughs to gradation-houses, through four of which it is passed in succession, and comes out of the last at the strength of 18° of the French areometer (which commonly is divided into 30 degrees, between distilled water and saturated brine.) It is then boiled for about 26 hours, or till the salt begins to crystallize, keeping the boiler constantly full: the sulphate of lime contained in the water is here precipitated, and a foulness which arises is skimmed off.

After this in winter the evaporation is continued till the whole of the salt is deposited: but in summer, a different method is followed, by which all the fuel consumed in the last stage of the process is saved.

When the solution is brought to the point of saturation, it is conveyed to a reservoir, whence it is raised by a chain pump to a trough, at the top of a wooden building, that extends its whole length. From this trough it runs through a series of very narrow troughs at right angles to it, and about two yards long. To each of these are fixed twenty-five double or endless ropes, about five inches apart from each other, and extending downwards about twenty-six feet. The saline water flowing constantly out at notches cut in the sides of the troughs, trickles down the ropes, round which it forms a very thin coat, displaying a considerable surface to the solvent power of the air. As the water evaporates, the salt is deposited on the ropes. The water that flows down runs into the reservoir, and is pumped up again repeatedly till it is exhausted, when it is suffered to run into the basin that contains the mother water.

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The water of seventeen boilings is thus raised in succession, which occupies forty or fifty days. At the expiration of this time the ropes are covered with a cylindrical coat of salt, of about three inches diameter, which is broken off by a particular instrument for the purpose. As this process can be only performed in summer, seldom more than two repetitions of it take place in the year. This process does not yield quite so much salt, as the product of the evaporation of water by two boilings, but then there is a considerable saving of time and labour as well as of fuel, and the salt obtained is more pure.

This process invented by M. Dubutet, has been employed with success ever since the year 1788, it is particularly adapted for hot and dry climates.

Mr. Roche has increased the utility of the building, by using it as a gradation house, during the eight months when it cannot be used for crystallization. He has found that the evaporation goes on nearly twice as fast in it as in the common gradation houses with faggots. It is necessary however that the brine should be of the strength of 4° or 5° before it is elevated, otherwise the ropes would speedily rot.

The building is 295 feet long, 55 of which are taken up with the pillars and the machine. It is divided into six spaces, by party-walls covered with boards, and each space contains forty troughs, and 2000 ropes. So that there are in all 12000 ropes, making a total length of 326,546 feet. Little expense is required for repairs, as three-fourths of the ropes last 17 or 18 years.

Proposed Improvement of the Hygrometer by J. Berzelius.

The quantity of gaseous water in the air is in proportion to the temperature: if the latter were immutable the former would also continue the same; perpetual changes of situation, circumstances, and temperature, produce continual alterations in this gas of the air, and from this alone are most of the aqueous meteors derived. Dalton has calculated the quantity of water capable of maintaining a gaziform state, correspondent with every degree of the thermometer. But it seldom happens that the air is charged with water to the maximum of what its temperature is capable.

The Hygrometer should express—to what column of the mercury the water gas of the air corresponds, and at the same time determine the absolute quantity of the gas; and, the temperature of the air being known,—how much of this gas it can take up beyond what it already holds, and how soon the exhalation therefore can take place.

The common hygrometers of hair, and of whalebone, are in this respect very imperfect: the results of them are not much to be relied on, having always a relation to the temperature, in which the examination is made.

Dalton used, in his hygrometrical experiments, a long cylindrical glass, filled with cold well water; when the dew appeared to coat the outside of the glass, he decanted the water, and wiped the glass well, and returned the water; and repeated the operation till no more dew appeared. He then examined the temperature of the water; and determined by his tables what the quantity of water gas was in air of that temperature.

This method is tedious, and inconvenient, and defective, as the precise temperature at which the glass should cease to appear moist cannot possibly be determined.

The first method which Mr. Berzelius used for this purpose was more accurate, but equally troublesome, taking a glass of well water, and finding it for example, to be of the temperature of 7° and that of the air 13 degrees more, or 20° . He then took twelve glasses, in the first of which he mixed twelve parts of this spring water, with one of water which had acquired the temperature of the air; in the second eleven parts of the spring water, with two of that of the temperature of the air; and so on in a decreasing ratio through the rest of the glasses, so as to produce a difference of a degree of temperature in each: the temperature of the first of these glasses which is not coated with dew, precisely indicates the expansive capacity of the water gas of the air: should the air happen to be too dry, so as not to yield a deposition of water, the cold may be increased by sal ammoniac, or in winter by snow and sal ammoniac.

From the inconvenience of this method, Mr. Berzelius resolved to precipitate the water from the air by the thermometer itself. He covered its bulb with a case of oiled silk, and immersed it in the cold water, till it had acquired the temperature of the water; on taking it up it became covered with dew, and on observing the degree of the scale when the dew disappeared, he found by Dalton's tables the expansive capacity of the water gas tolerably near. But damp air from 18° to 20° , produced a somewhat greater result than what it ought to be, because the thermometer, when much water is deposited on its bulb, proceeds a little beyond the true point before all the dew is evaporated; and besides this a small portion of dew is not accurately distinguished on the bulb of the common thermometer. For these reasons Mr. Berzelius saw that a farther improvement of the thermometer was necessary, and on trying that which then occurred to him, found it to succeed completely.

This more perfect instrument has a very elongated bulb of steel highly polished, attached to a steel tube of about an inch long, to which a glass tube is closely cemented, and a thermometer formed of it by putting in mercury in the usual manner. When the bulb, with its oil-silk case was immersed in the cooling mixture, and taken up as the mercury fell an inch, or every other inch, according to circumstances, a period was at last attained, when the bulb became covered with a quickly passing coat of aqueous vapour, and the scale then expressed the degree of expansive capacity of the water gas of the air with the greatest precision.

This kind of Hygrometer, besides the nicety and accuracy of its results, has also the advantage, that an experiment can be made with it without loss of time or trouble, and does not tire the observer like the former methods.

This improved Hygrometer of Mr. Berzelius has, besides the advantages he has stated, the obvious one of serving also as a thermometer for the usual purposes. As oiled silk is a bad conductor of heat, perhaps a small case of pewter might be found to answer better for the bulb; which on account of the softness of the metal, would not scratch or injure the polish of the bulb more than the silk.

If the liability of the polished steel bulb to rust, was found inconvenient, it might be coated with platina, which it is imagined would, when polished exhibit the dew as well as steel. Mr. Stoddart's method of coating steel with platina by sulphuric Ether and the Nitro-muriate of this metal, would be probably the best for this purpose.

Account of an experiment in which Potash calcined with charcoal took fire on the addition of water, and produced ammoniacal gas. By Mr. James Woodward, of Philadelphia. Phil. Jour. V. 2, p. 290.

Mr. Woodward being engaged in the analysis of soot, exposed half a pound of it, mixed with two ounces of pearlsh, in a covered crucible, to the intense heat of an air furnace for two hours.

When the mixture was cold, on pouring a small quantity of water on it, it immediately took fire, and afforded a small quantity of ammoniacal gas, which much surprised the experimenter.

He repeated the experiment with common charcoal, which likewise produced ammoniacal gas.

Nascent Hydrogen sometimes combines with the Nitrogene of the atmosphere, and forms ammoniacal gas. But Mr. Woodward thinks this did not take place in his experiment, because he found, that when the fire of the mixture of charcoal and pearlsh was extinguished by water, and it was then placed immediately under a bell-glass containing atmospheric air, the oxygen of the latter was alone absorbed, and the Nitrogene was left behind.

Mr. Woodward would not have been at all surprised at the product of ammoniacal

moniacal gas from soot if he had read Boerhaave's experiments on this substance, which proved that it contained a considerable quantity of ammoniacal salt, and spirit.

The remarkable part of Mr. Woodward's experiments, (of which he does not seem to be sensible from his passing it over so slightly) is the product of ammonia by charcoal. Notwithstanding Mr. Woodward's opinion to the contrary, it seems most likely that this was caused by the nascent hydrogen of the decomposed water combining with the atmospheric air, for though the mixture absorbed oxygen alone, when extinguished, and placed under the bell-glass, yet the circumstances were so different between this case and the former, that different results might well be expected: the smallness of the mass of air acted on was alone sufficient to account for the difference, and the confinement of the products under the bell-glass, by altering the pressure under which the combination of the gases took place, and preventing their passing off must also have materially influenced their nature.

An account of the Aloe tree and of its uses. Agl. Mag. V. 3. 381.

Few in this country know any other use of the Aloe but the medicine it affords it; but it serves for a number of other beneficial purposes in the countries where it grows. In the East Indies aloes are employed as a varnish to preserve wood from worms and other insects; and skins, and even living animals, are anointed with it for the same reason.

The havoc committed by the white ants in India first suggested the trial of aloe juice to protect wood from them; for which purpose the juice is either used as extracted, or in solution by some solvent.

Aloes have also been found effectual in preserving ships from the ravages of the worm, and the adhesion of barnacles. The ship's bottom for this purpose is smeared with a composition of hepatic aloes, turpentine, tallow, and white lead. In proof of the efficacy of this method, two planks of equal thickness, and cut from the same tree, were placed under water, one in its natural state, and the other smeared with the composition; when on taking them up after being immersed eight months, the smeared plank was found to be perfect as at first, and the other was entirely penetrated by insects, and in an absolute state of rottenness.

An aquatic solution of hepatic aloes preserves young plants from destruction by insects. It also preserves dead animals and vegetables from putrefaction, which renders it of great use in the cabinets of naturalists; the spirituous extract is best for this purpose, though in this respect it is inferior to that of cantharides, prepared by infusing two grains of cantharides in an ounce of spirits, which has been found to be so effectual in the extirpation of bugs.

Perner asserts, that a simple decoction of Aloes communicates by itself a fine brown colour to wool. J. Fabroni of Florence has extracted a beautiful violet colour, which resists the acids, and alkalis, from the juice of the fresh leaves of the Aloe exposed to the air by degrees. The liquid first becomes red, and at the end of a certain period turns a beautiful purple violet colour, which adheres to silk by simple immersion without the aid of acids.

Adanson mentions in his Voyage to Senegal that the leaves of the aloe serve for the fabrication of very excellent cordage, which is not susceptible of injury from water. And Sloane describes two sorts of aloe leaves, one of which is employed for making fishing-lines, bowstrings, stockings, hammocks; the other sort affords vessels for receiving and preserving rain water.

At Mexico there is a species of Aloe, or rather Agave, called *Maguey*, which supplies almost every want of nature, the extensive front which it presents, and its numerous hard prickles, render it very fit for the formation of impenetrable hedges. The trunk is used by ship-carpenters, and the leaves supply slates and tiles for covering houses. From this plant too the Mexicans make not only their paper but their cordage, and the greatest part of their cloathing. The vast quantity of juice which it yields is converted by certain processes, into wine, vinegar, and sugar; and a very palatable mess is made from part of the trunk, and a certain portion of the thickest leaves,

Dr. Fineschi

Dr. Fineschi, director of the celebrated iron works of the Isle of Elbe, had a pair of stockings and a pair of gloves made from the fibres of aloe leaves, which possessed all the firmness, pliability, and lustre of those made of silk.

The aloe tree is grown with astonishing facility in the southern departments of France, and also in most parts of Italy. In the Cape of good Hope aloes are obtained from the trees at all seasons of the year. In Spain, but particularly at Morovedo, where there are immense plantations of Aloes, the leaves are gathered towards the end of October; they are cut each into two or three pieces, and placed upon hair sieves. The juice that runs from them is received into proper vessels, and this first juice is called the first or succoterine aloes, from the island of Succotera, which formerly afforded the best kind. When the leaves cease to yield juice of themselves, they are cut anew into smaller pieces than before; which are pierced on each side, squeezed in a press, and their produce placed in a vessel over a moderate fire. The lightest and purest part is carefully separated from the rest, and the scum is taken off. This part coagulates gradually, and produces what is called the hepatic aloes. The residuum, to which is added the scum, forms the coarse caballine or horse aloes. The juice of Aloes when arrived at a concrete state is partly soluble in water, and partly in spirits. The Succoterine aloes are known by their yellowish red colour, they are rather transparent, but when repurified, become so much so, as to be called pellucid aloes. Hepatic aloes have their name from their colour, which is of a dark red, or liver colour, they are more opaque than the succoterine, their odour less strong and fragrant, and their flavour much more bitter, and the caballine aloes are nearly black, very dense, yield a disagreeable empyreumatical smell; and are extremely nauseous to the taste. The Spanish and Levant succoterines are mostly preferred for medicine.

OBITUARY OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

MR. WILLIAM RATHBONE.

The commemoration of departed worth is a debt due no less to the living than to the dead, and it would be unjust to the present age to suffer the virtues and talents of one of its brightest ornaments, recently withdrawn from it, to pass away without particular notice.

WILLIAM RATHBONE, who died on the 11th day of the present month, at his house at Green Bank, near Liverpool, was the son of William Rathbone, a respectable merchant, of Liverpool, and one of the religious society of Quakers, from whom he inherited that uprightness of heart and benevolence of character by which he was himself so eminently distinguished. Although engaged at an early period in active business, which he pursued with strict regularity, and for many years of his life with unremitting industry, he yet found leisure for the cultivation of his mind in many of the most important branches of human knowledge. Endowed by nature with kind dispositions and an excellent understanding, his great view throughout life was to promote, as far as his situation would permit, the true honour, interests, and happiness of his fellow-creatures; an object which he endeavoured to accomplish not merely by unceasing works of charity and benevolence within the sphere of his personal influence, but by a steady, uniform, and unshaken attention to all those great principles of right and justice upon which are founded the security, respectability, and prosperity of the human race.

Throughout the political, moral, and religious storms and commotions which have now for so long a period agitated the civilized world, he was a rock that felt no change. Whenever the rights and welfare of others were in question, whenever oppression was to be withstood, or intolerance opposed, it was unnecessary to ask for his assistance, or to enquire what was his opinion. His hand and his heart, every faculty of his body, and every energy of his mind were ready in the cause. In the year 1792, when the fate of Europe depended upon the turn of the balance, when a wise, temperate, and enlightened decision might

might have preserved the world from unspeakable calamities, and given to this nation the honour of having patronized the cause of rational freedom and of limited monarchy, he was among the first who in his native town of Liverpool endeavoured to impress upon the public mind the expediency of avoiding a war with France. At a general meeting of the inhabitants, called by the Mayor in the month of December in that year, his exertions, with those of other friends of liberty and peace, induced the meeting to vote an address to his Majesty, expressive of their gratitude to him for having so long preserved to them the blessings of public tranquillity; and their earnest hope, that no circumstances would induce him to implicate his people in affairs foreign to their interests, and fatal to their repose. The question was three times put, and as often carried in favour of the address. The populous town of Manchester followed; a similar address was there proposed and carried, and the example thus begun might have extended still further; but although such was the sense of the majority, yet the same circumstance which has occurred in other places, of a riot in favour of the existing administration, took place on this occasion in Liverpool, and the address, although voted by the meeting, and left for the signature of the inhabitants at the town-hall, was torn in pieces by a lawless mob and scattered through the streets. How fully the apprehensions which were then expressed of the consequences that must ensue from involving the country in a war have since been realized, the present situation of the manufacturing and commercial part of this county, and the thousands of industrious labourers who are thus deprived of the means of subsistence for themselves and families, but too fatally shew. Another meeting of the inhabitants was sometime afterwards called by the Mayor, in one of the squares of the town, in order to consider on the propriety of addressing his Majesty to dismiss Mr. Pitt and his colleagues from his confidence and councils; when, upon a motion made to that effect by a very respectable and independent individual, Mr. R. endeavoured to address the meeting in its support; but such was the dread which the partisans of administration entertained of his talents and his eloquence, that they employed a great number of persons to prevent, by noise and clamour, his being heard. After repeated attempts he was obliged to desist; and the Mayor declared that he could not determine whether the motion was carried or not, and dismissed the meeting without a decision.

The monopoly granted to the East India Company, and the exclusion of British subjects from a lucrative trade, to which even foreign nations were admitted, were subjects which had long engaged his particular attention. In the year 1792 he had taken an active part at a meeting of the inhabitants of Liverpool, when certain resolutions were entered into, expressive of their sense of the injuries which the country suffered by such monopoly. These resolutions, drawn up by one of his intimate friends who is now no more, but whose character is well known to the public by his literary and scientific acquirements, are deserving of notice for their assertion of general principles, and the enlightened maxims of commercial policy which they inculcate. The inefficacy of this effort did not prevent Mr. Rathbone from making another attempt to call the public attention to this momentous subject. In the course of the year 1807 a meeting of the inhabitants of Liverpool was held in the town-hall, at which he presided, when he laid before them a full exposition of the affairs of the East India Company, and proposed that addresses against the new loans required by them should be presented to both houses of parliament, which were accordingly carried at a most numerous meeting; one person only holding up his hand against it, a circumstance which drew upon him the notice and disapprobation of the assembly; but which Mr. Rathbone no sooner perceived, than with that kindness and promptitude which were habitual to him, he exclaimed, "You are right, Sir, in thus avowing your opinion; minorities are often virtuous."

One of the latest efforts of this Champion of peace and good-will on earth, was to remove the obstacles which have unfortunately prevented the usual intercourse between this country and America, a subject in which, from the nature of his commercial concerns, as being extensively engaged in that trade, he was most peculiarly interested; but which he considered in a public view,

as it regarded the happiness of two countries formed to be of the greatest service to each other in their commercial relations; no man living being more free than he was from the narrow views of selfish advantage and private interest. In a declining state of health he offered himself to an examination on this subject, and accordingly delivered his evidence at the bar of both houses of parliament; but although the information there given by himself and others proved, to the satisfaction of all impartial persons, the inefficacy of the measures adopted by the Orders in Council, either to counteract the effects of the embargo, or to promote the interests of this country; and although the facts there proved were enforced by the eloquence of many members of the greatest respectability and talents, yet no beneficial effect whatever was produced, and the Orders in Council yet remain, to second the views of our enemies and to starve our own countrymen.

To such a mind as that of Mr. Rathbone, it was impossible that the great question of the slave-trade, which so long agitated the kingdom, could be a subject of indifference.—On this question his excellent father had taken an active part, as may be seen by Mr. Clarkson's history of the abolition; but the efforts of the late Mr. Rathbone were not less decisive or less effectual; and it is to be attributed in no small degree to his bold and persevering opposition to it, and to the strong and impressive manner in which his opinions were avowed, that even in the town of Liverpool, the very place which was the centre of that trade, a powerful body was raised against it, and proper sentiments of natural right and justice instilled into the public mind. That he lived to see the success of this measure was the greatest triumph which he ever enjoyed, as, independently of the immediate benefits to which it gave rise, it afforded him reason to hope that there was in this country a fund of integrity, humanity, and good sense, which under all emergencies would be found adequate to its preservation.

Nor did he view with indifference the municipal concerns of the town in which he resided. For a long series of years a select body of the corporators have taken the administration of the affairs of the town into their own hands, excluding therefrom the burgesses at large, and under the name of a common council have elected their own members, and claimed the right of making bye-laws for the government of the town. These pretensions were opposed, as inconsistent with the existing charters, by a great number of the freemen, and even by some respectable members of the select body, and Mr. Rathbone took a conspicuous part in the assertion of the rights of his fellow burgesses. A voluntary subscription was entered into; the questions were put into a course of judicial proceeding, and that respecting the right of making bye-laws was tried at Lancaster, and a verdict given in favour of the burgesses at large. On a motion in the Court of King's Bench, a new trial was directed, and the cause went again before a jury, who returned a similar verdict to their predecessors. The Court of King's Bench was again moved, and a third trial was ordered, but the strong indications thus given that the claims of the burgesses would not ultimately prevail, induced them to relinquish the contest, and the select body still continues to exercise the complete direction of the concerns and finances of the town. These local contests occurred at a period when Mr. Rathbone was in the full vigour of his powers. At the numerous assemblies held on these occasions he frequently addressed the freemen of the town, and the torrent of his eloquence was irresistible. The force of his arguments, the clearness of his demonstration, and the urbanity of his manner, overpowered all resistance, and enthralled all hearts; and the applauses he received whenever he spoke were as involuntary as they were sincere.

Mr. Rathbone had been strictly educated in the religious profession of which his parents were members, to which he had himself invariably adhered, notwithstanding an extensive and intimate intercourse of friendship with many persons of different religious persuasions, and had evinced himself an active and useful member of their society; but of late years some transactions took place in their proceedings in Ireland, which he conceived to be inconsistent with that degree of religious toleration, and that right of private judgment in religious

religious matters, on which alone any dissent from pre-existing establishments can be rationally defended. In the course of these proceedings it appeared that some difference of opinion had arisen amongst the members of the society as well on points of doctrine as of discipline; in consequence of which a considerable number of them had been excluded, and others had voluntarily withdrawn themselves from the association. Under these circumstances, which tended not only to diminish the numbers of the society, but to bring it into disrepute, especially as those separating from it were persons of respectable character and religious dispositions, Mr. Rathbone thought that by a clear statement of the transactions which had taken place, and a calm, temperate, and impartial comment upon them, it might be possible to heal the breach. But in taking upon himself this task, he had yet higher views; and whilst he endeavoured to shew forth by argument and authority, *the real value of ceremonial forms and observances*, he determined to assert to the utmost of his power the *sacred right* of every individual to judge for himself in religious matters, and the *important duty* of exercising this right without fear of temporal consequences. His strong judgment and enlightened mind had indeed convinced him of the great and most important truth, that until there be a perfect and acknowledged freedom of opinion on religious subjects, until every one can allow his neighbour to judge and to act in his spiritual concerns by the dictates of his own understanding, without any diminution of kindness and good will towards him on account of his dissent, the causes of alienation and enmity can never be removed, nor the true principles of Christianity ever be established. Under these impressions he published in the year 1804, *A narration of events that have lately taken place in Ireland among the society called Quakers*. In the compilation of this work he paid the most scrupulous attention to the authenticity of the facts which he recorded, accompanying them with observations which sufficiently display the liberality of his sentiments and the benevolence of his heart. To revive this subject is as foreign to the purpose of the author of these remarks, as it would be unsuitable to that of the present publication; but it would be unjust to the character of Mr. Rathbone to pass it over, without presenting to the reader, in his own words, his general view of the nature of true religious unity, which may be sufficiently collected from the following passage in that work.

"Instances of cordial and long cemented friendship, between liberal and virtuous minds, who neither hold *similar opinions*, nor practise *similar forms* in matters of religion, are sufficiently frequent to shew, that *unity* in forms and opinions, is by no means essential to that bond of union.—The nature of wisdom and folly, truth and falsehood, virtue and vice, are indeed irreconcilably opposed to each other; and the necessary result is, that among their respective votaries, whether of the same or of different societies, *unity* must be unknown.—But among those, who are happily habituated to regard the GLORY OF GOD, and the GOOD OF MANKIND, as the predominant objects of their pursuit, is it not obvious, that there can be no differences about forms and opinions, respecting which they are likely to feel, or would he justified in feeling, great anxiety, on behalf of each other? There is indeed one point, beyond all others, pre-eminent in importance, concerning which their labours and their prayers, for each other, can never be unnecessary or unseasonable; and this is, *UNITY* in that sentiment which represents the favour of our merciful Creator, and an increasing participation of his divine nature, through all the successive periods of eternal existence, by means of a progressive improvement in intellect and virtue, as objects infinitely more momentous than any which this world can present."

This publication was not however attended with the beneficial consequences which its benevolent author wished. Instead of adopting the ideas which he had endeavoured to inculcate, the society considered the work as derogatory to the character and injurious to the interests of their body, and proceedings were had upon it, which terminated in his disunion from them as a religious community. These proceedings were afterwards published by Mr. Rathbone, under the title of "*A Memoir of the proceedings of the Society called Quakers, &c.*" In this work is contained his defence, as transmitted to the society prior to his expulsion,

expulsion, in which he has ably vindicated his own opinions and conduct; but rather with a view to justify himself in the judgment of the candid and impartial of all sects, than with that of averting the disunion with which he was threatened. In fact, the separation was become as necessary to him as to the society; and as he could not prevail upon its members to approve of his sentiments and adopt his recommendations, he felt no regret, except what arose from his unalterable regard and friendship for the individuals of that body, at being deprived of all further connection with them.

It will perhaps be supposed that in times like the present, the political discussions in which Mr. Rathbone had been engaged would excite no small share of resentment in those whose opinions and conduct he opposed. But whatever might be the animosity thus produced in the minds of others, it is certain that they occasioned no feelings of personal hostility and resentment in his own. On the contrary, the philanthropy of his character induced him to feel a general affection for all mankind, and the generosity of his disposition led him to compensate those with whom he differed in opinion, for the opposition shewn to them, by an additional share of kindness and respect. In asserting his own sentiments he always did justice to the motives of those from whom he differed, and as he was not conscious of, so he never expressed those angry feelings and that vindictive spirit which characterize the contests of the present day, whether literary, political, or religious. The same indulgence and toleration which were habitual to him, he wished also to see displayed in the conduct of his friends; and an ungenerous remark or an illiberal censure, even on an avowed adversary, never passed without his animadversion and reproof. He well knew that virtue and benevolence are not confined to any one class of political opinions, or to the precincts of any one religious sect; and when the indications of these appeared, he was ever eager to do them justice. That this temper and conduct smoothed many of the asperities to which the inflexible assertion of his own principles gave rise, cannot be doubted; and he will long continue to be held in affectionate remembrance by many, who whilst they differed with him on essential points of belief and conduct, yet loved and venerated the man. If, amongst those harsher spirits, who, convinced of their own infallibility, can make no allowance for the dissent of others, there were some who considered his principles with abhorrence and his talents with dread, their violence or injustice produced upon his calm and dignified mind no reaction of a similar nature; inasmuch that few persons have so uniformly practised throughout life that great christian maxim, which if adhered to by others in an equal degree would lay the basis of human happiness, "*To love your enemies—to bless those that curse you—and to pray for those who despitefully use you and persecute you.*"—

The character and conduct of this distinguished friend of liberty, humanity, and peace, and the direction which he gave to his talents, were such as to have left, on his own account, no cause of regret amongst his surviving friends. His mission is performed; and from a life of care and anxiety, attended with no common share of suffering from bodily indisposition, he is gone to receive the reward of his labours. But those to whom he was more intimately known will find it difficult to suppress a sentiment of sorrow and disappointment, that the great endowments of his mind, and the benevolent dictates of his heart, had not an opportunity of exerting themselves on a still wider scale. Had he, whilst in the vigour of his powers, been called to take an active part in general and national concerns, it is impossible to say what might not have been effected by his fervid eloquence, his undaunted firmness, and his earnest desire to promote the general happiness. But these regrets are vain and fruitless. A cold, a narrow, and a short-sighted policy, has infused itself throughout the country. A spirit of hatred, of retaliation, and of revenge, has superseded the common feelings of humanity, and too often broken down the boundaries of right and justice; and the effects of these, under the wise constitution of the moral world, have already been severely visited upon ourselves. These evils were beyond his power to remedy; and an apprehension of that decline of public virtue, and that progress of corruption, which must finally end in disgrace and ruin, occasioned him many moments of solicitude and regret.

True excellence is always the more highly esteemed as it is the more nearly approached and the more intimately known, and notwithstanding the respect paid to his acknowledged merits in public life, it was in the social circle, and in the society of his family and friends, that his character appeared in its most favourable aspect. On these occasions it was impossible not to be struck with that soul of benevolence which disclosed itself in every word and look, and with that simplicity of manner which indicated that he had not a thought to conceal. As his views were extensive, and his experience considerable, so the tenor of his conversation was always instructive, and it may most truly be said of him, that a word scarcely ever escaped his lips that was not directed to some benevolent purpose, to impart pleasure, to communicate knowledge, or to do good. His person and appearance were strikingly impressive, and conciliated attachment, whilst they inspired respect. His manner was peculiarly natural and engaging; and throughout his discourse, the aptitude of his illustrations, and the playfulness of his fancy, always confined within the strictest bounds of propriety and decorum, never failed to delight his hearers.

For a long time the declining state of Mr. Rathbone's health had caused the most serious apprehensions to his friends; but a few months since, his complaints assumed a more alarming form, and he had to struggle with sufferings beyond what generally fall to the lot of humanity. If there be a spectacle on earth more peculiarly deserving of admiration than any other, it is the contemplation of a firm and a virtuous mind, rising superior to corporeal sufferings, and shining forth in all its lustre amidst the ruins of its earthly frame. In the last period of the life of Mr. Rathbone, this spectacle was most eminently displayed. The moments that could be spared from actual suffering, were assiduously devoted to the consolation of his affectionate family, and the society of his friends, with whom he conversed on his approaching death, not only with fortitude, but with cheerfulness. The faculties of his mind were unimpaired to the last moment, when without a struggle he resigned his spirit into the hands of his Creator.

"Thrice happy! who the blameless road along
Of honest praise, hath reach'd the vale of death!
Around him, like ministrant cherubs, throng
His better actions; to the parting breath
Singing their blessed requiems; he the while,
Gently reposing on some friendly breast,
Breathes out his benisons; then with a smile
Of soft complacence lays him down to rest,
Calm as the slumbering infant."

His remains were attended to the grave in the burial ground of the Quakers' society, in Liverpool, by a very large concourse of his friends, of all ranks, and of various religious denominations, who voluntarily assembled to pay the last tribute to his virtues, and by whom he will long be held in affectionate remembrance.

Mr. Rathbone married, in the year 1786, the only daughter of Mr. Richard Reynolds, late of Colebrook Dale, but now of Bristol, who has survived him, and by whom he has left four sons and a daughter to profit by his example, and to revere his memory.

THOMAS BEDDOES, M. D.

Of this ingenious physician, who died at his residence at Clifton, near Bristol, on December 24, 1808, a life is announced by a gentleman well qualified, we believe, to give a full and just view of his various claims to commemoration; but in the mean time we cannot omit paying our tribute of respect to his memory by such a notice of him as a man and a writer, as our sources of information have enabled us to present to our readers.

Thomas Beddoes was born at Shifnal, in Shropshire, in 1754 or 1755. His
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father followed the business of a tanner, which in that part of the country is often accompanied (as it was in his case) with a moderate share of opulence. He was destined to a liberal profession; and after a suitable preliminary education, was entered of Pembroke college, Oxford. He proceeded to the degree of B. A. in that university; when having made choice of physic for his particular pursuit, he went to Edinburgh about 1781 as the most celebrated school of that art. There he distinguished himself by the zeal and intelligence with which he entered into the studies of the place; and probably no student in his time took a larger and more independent survey of the objects of instruction connected with the medical course. His mind, indeed, was not made for shackles; and on every subject which engaged his thoughts he speculated freely, and often originally. Returning to Oxford, he completed his academical degrees, and in 1786 was appointed reader of chemistry in that university. He afterwards visited France, and there witnessed the approaches of that revolution which has since so much astonished and terrified the world. It was naturally to be expected that one who penetrated with so searching an eye into the defects of other systems and institutions, should be acutely sensible of those attending on systems of government, and that his philanthropy should strongly incline him to the side of reform. This disposition, with respect both to France and England, he manifested so openly, that during the fervour of parties which agitated the first periods of the French revolution, he incurred much obloquy and displeasure in a place where such principles were held peculiarly dangerous. Finding himself thus uncongenially situated, he resigned his lectureship in 1792, and soon after settled at Clifton, near Bristol. He had already made himself known by his writings: and he continued, amidst the avocations of practice, to employ his pen on a variety of topics, philosophical, political, metaphysical, and medical—for few minds have taken a wider range of enquiry.

We shall not here enter into any detail respecting his numerous publications, which will doubtless constitute an interesting part of the proposed biographical work. It is enough to observe, that in all, he had in view the benefit of the public and the promotion of science, and that all display ingenuity and vivacity, and an ardour for improvement, sometimes accompanied by that sanguine confidence and fondness for novelty which are the splendid faults of genius. Many of his writings are of the popular kind, to which his style and manner were admirably adapted, few having ever surpassed him in pointed remark, familiar illustration, and (occasionally) humorous sarcasm. One of his pieces, entitled, "The History of Isaac Jenkins," and containing an account of the progress and cure of a drunkard in low life, may stand at the head of the cheap publications meritoriously intended to reform the morals of the poor. It has all the humour and truth of painting of Fielding's novels, directed to the most serious utility, and ought to be more widely circulated.

Dr. Beddoes married a daughter of the Edgeworth family, so distinguished in elegant and pleasing literature, by whom he has left four children. He had for some time past been a sufferer under asthmatic and pulmonary symptoms, which he bore with great resolution, continuing to employ himself in study and writing almost to the day of his decease. On examining the body, his left lung was found greatly diseased, with a collection of water in the chest.

We cannot better conclude this article than with a brief summary of his character, moral and intellectual, communicated by one fully qualified to appreciate it. "He certainly was a man of great ingenuity and quickness. He seized upon analogies with great rapidity, and endeavoured to apply them to discovery; but a small obstacle discouraged him. He had the mind of a poet, great fancy, considerable abilities for vivid representations of facts or theories, much ardour and enthusiasm, but requiring the stimulus of novelty to keep alive his activity. He possessed great learning, and understood perfectly the Greek, Latin, French, Italian, Spanish, and German languages. His temper was admirable. He was an indulgent husband, a kind father, and respectable in all the relations of life."

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

Inundations—The inconvenience and damage which have been sustained in almost every part of the kingdom from the inundation occasioned by the late rapid thaw, is greater than any thing of a like nature that can be recollected. In the metropolis the streets were rendered impassable, and in Dorset-street, Portman-square, the arch was blown up, and a considerable part of the pavement washed away by the rapidity of the common-sewer which runs through that part of the town on its way from Hampstead to the Thames. At Battle-bridge, the water rushed into the houses, and the inhabitants were forced to fly to their upper stories for protection, the road could only be passed with great difficulty by carts. In the neighbourhood of Kennington and Vauxhall, a torrent of water rose, which, in its progress, carried away furniture, trunks of trees, cattle, &c. and destroyed a great number of bridges. The principal part of Chelsea was under water, and during two days there was no passing but by boats and carts, to take persons to their own homes. The walls of several buildings were washed down. At Anderson's brewhouse, near the College, the horses and pigs were taken out for fear of their being drowned. In many parts of this, and other neighbourhoods near London, the inhabitants have been obliged to get in and out of the one pair of stairs window. The Clapham-road was rendered impassable; several houses were completely insulated by the water, and the inhabitants were unable to obtain provisions, or to get out of their houses. A considerable part of Deptford-bridge was washed away by the torrents from the adjacent hills. Fortunately no person was hurt by the accident. The coaches on that road were under the necessity of coming to town by Lewisham, &c. It is a remarkable circumstance, that while the Ravensburne rose to such a height as to carry away part of the bridges at Lewisham and Deptford, the Wandle river, which has its source within a hundred yards of the Ravensburne, did not in the late inundation overflow its banks, nor do the least damage. The Addiscombe brook, which runs into the Wandle, below Merton, rose ten feet perpendicular height, and laid Tooting under water.

The accounts from the country are equally disastrous. At Maidstone, part of the church-yard wall was borne down, the graves were disturbed, and several coffins exposed. The whole of the lower part of Bristol was inundated. The water in many places exceeded four feet in depth. The fresh in the river was so sudden and furious, that it drove two trows against the buttresses of the temporary wooden bridge, between Clare-street and St. Augustin's Back, and forced it down with a tremendous crash. Fortunately it was perceived to be in danger, which gave an opportunity to the passengers and spectators to escape. At Bath, from the same cause, the river was rapidly swelled, and the flood rushed with such velocity as to threaten total destruction to whatever impeded its progress. The inhabitants in several parts of that city, and suburbs, have been great sufferers. Houses that were unable to withstand the torrent, fell, and buried their unfortunate inmates under the ruins. Several persons have been drowned, and others have lost property to a great amount. Timber to a great amount in value, cattle, horses, carts, &c. have been carried away. The flood was of greater depth than has been known within the memory of man. At Exeter, the flood was so great in the streets, that the shops were full of water, and the inhabitants obliged to betake themselves to their upper rooms. In the town of Tiverton, there was so sudden a swell, that the house of Mr. Anthony, Surgeon, was instantly overwhelmed. The family were assisted out of the windows at midnight, one half of the dwelling-house was completely washed away. As the Exeter mail was on its way from London, near Staines, the coachman endeavoured to avoid a part of the road where he knew the waters were out; in doing which he got into another part that had been flooded since he was there, which proved worse than the other, and the water was so deep that the coach floated, and the horses swam. The coach was suddenly thrown over, the coachman and guard were thrown to a considerable distance. The passengers were got out with considerable difficulty, and the horses were disengaged from the coach. The coach could not be got out. The whole country round was covered with water from Chertsey to Maidenhead.

Maidenhead; the towns surrounded with floods, running in torrents as high as the parlour windows. Numbers of poor inhabitants have nearly lost their all, which has been carried away in the streams. The lower part of Egham was under water and impassable. But among the numberless instances of havoc, the greatest perhaps is in the Fens of Ely, where the waters rose higher, by six inches, than ever remembered, and rolled over the banks in a truly terrific manner. At length the dykes gave way in all directions, and inundated 60,000 acres of land six feet deep, involving houses, cattle, stacks, corn, and every thing in one general ruin; such a melancholy scene of destruction was never witnessed in the country. The damage is estimated at more than half a million, as all the next season is lost, as well as the growing crops, &c. In the neighbourhood of Carlisle, the rivers Eden, Caldew, and Pettril, swelled beyond their bounds to a height scarcely ever remembered. The Caldew has done great mischief to the bleach works and printing grounds on its banks, swept away above an acre of ground, the property of Sir John Musgrave; a bridge near Denton Mill, and a dye-house belonging to Messrs. Ferguson and Co. Part of the corporation-weir has also been carried away, although cramped together in the strongest manner with iron. The river Esk overflowed all the low grounds in the vicinity of its course. It has swept away the greatest part of Netherby Bay, formed by a beautiful stone weir erected by Sir James Graham, Bart. across the river. That weir, we are informed, cost the house of Netherby upwards of 15,000*l*. It contained a breadth of 44 feet, and rose gradually to the perpendicular height of 12 feet: it was substantially bound together with square timber, and the intersects filled with hewn freestone. A recently erected embankment of considerable strength, at Rockliff-Cross, belonging to R. Mousey, Esq. of Carlisle, has been swept away by the river. The stone weir across the Eden, at Armathwaite Castle, has also been carried away. At Newcastle, the ice which had been collected in the river Tyne, broke away with a tremendous crash, and so great was the power by which it was impelled, that it forced four ships, which had been frozen up, from their stations alongside the quay, and carried them down the river. All efforts to stop them proved ineffectual, until they reached the end of Sandgate, where they luckily took the ground, and were thus prevented from proceeding, without any further injury. At Shields, the ice in large quantities came down the river with great velocity, and drove from their moorings four of his Majesty's ships of war, and upwards of twenty merchantmen, many of which were in the most perilous situations. The South Shields original life-boat was immediately launched, and went to those vessels in the greatest jeopardy, rescuing their crews from danger, (as two of the vessels went in pieces on the rocks) and affording every assistance to the other ships in distress. A great concourse of people were assembled to view the melancholy scene, who were loud in their applause, on beholding the very efficacious assistance rendered by the life-boat and her intrepid crew.

LONDON AND MIDDLESEX.

A more awfully sublime spectacle was probably never witnessed, than the conflagration of Drury-Lane Theatre, which on the night of the 24th of February was totally consumed.—About half-past eleven the flames burst out at the lobby-windows in Brydges-Street, while volumes of smoke were perceived issuing from every part of the theatre. In less than a quarter of an hour it spread with one unbroken flame over the whole of the immense pile, extending from Brydges Street to Drury-Lane, so that the pillar of fire was not less than 450 feet in breadth. In about thirty minutes after its commencement the Apollo on the top fell into the pit, and soon after the whole of the roof also fell. The reservoir on the top, which, with the iron curtain, formed the topic of security in the prologue with which the new theatre was opened, was like a mere bucket-full to the volumes of fire on which it fell, and had no visible effect in damping it. Being a Friday in Lent, there had been no play nor rehearsal, but those who entered the house when the fire was first observed, ascertained that the flames had begun in the hall under the lobby at the Brydges-Street entry, where some plumbers had been at work. With great difficulty some books and papers were saved from the treasury; the only other article saved

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was a bureau in Mrs. Jordan's dressing-room, for the excess of heat rendered farther exertion impossible. Before twelve a body of horse-guards, foot-guards, and volunteers, came to the place, and engines from every quarter had reached the spot; but the firemen soon perceiving that every attempt to extinguish the flames would be unavailing, directed their attention to the neighbouring buildings with so good effect, that none have been materially damaged but such as were connected with the theatre. About half past one the front next Russell-street gave way, and before two the walls next Vinegar-yard fell also with a most tremendous crash. Fortunately no lives were lost, and only one person hurt, whose leg was broken by the fall of a part of the wall towards Brydges-street. Mr. Sheridan was in the House of Commons assisting in the important discussion on Mr. Ponsonby's motion. The house was illuminated by the blaze of light, and the interest universally taken in the circumstance interrupted the debate. A motion was made to adjourn, but Mr. Sheridan observed with great calmness, "that whatever might be the extent of the private calamity, he hoped it would not interfere with the public business of the country." He then left the house, and the discussion proceeded. Many spectators were upon Westminster Bridge to view the flames, which, from that point, presented a spectacle more sublimely terrific than any that has been witnessed in this capital since the fire of 1666. Those who recollect how beautiful and conspicuous an object the theatre appeared from the bridge, may form some conception of the awful spectacle it exhibited, glowing in every part with ignited matter. The horizon was so illuminated with the flames, that every steeple from Whitechapel to Westminster Abbey was as visible as at noon day; and the reflection of so immense a body of light on the river, considerably added to the afflicting grandeur of the scene. The premises were insured in the British, Imperial, Hope, Eagle, Atlas, and County, Fire-offices, for about seventy thousand pounds, a sum far, very far, under the actual loss, so that the difficulties of the proprietors, great as they were before, are now, perhaps, irremediable. The loss to the performers is also most serious. They have lost every thing, and in one day several hundred persons are thrown out of bread.

Married. At *St. Mary-la-Bonne*, Capt. Peter Parker, R. N. to Miss Marianne Dallas, second daughter of Sir George Dallas, Bart.—James Pymar, Esq. of Durweston-street, to Miss Campbell, of Bloomsbury-square.—At *St. James's*, Thomas Bramall, Esq. of Lichfield, to Miss Sophia Robins, of Warwick-street, Golden-square.—Capt. G. Peters, of the 9th Light Dragoons, to Miss Read, of Walthamstow.—George Willis, Esq. of Newgate-street, to Miss Sophia Griffin, of Golden-square.—At *Hammersmith*, John Dickson, Esq. of Dumfriesshire, to Christian, sole heiress of John Bethune, Esq. of Bengal.—At *St. Clement Danes*, John Morrough, of Cork, Esq. to Mary, the youngest daughter of Francis Plowden, Esq. Barrister at Law.—At *Chelsea Church*, Henry Willmott, Esq. of Shoreham in Kent, eldest son of Thomas Willmott, Esq. of the same place, to Georgiana Henrietta Gregory, second daughter of John Gregory, Esq. of Cheyne-walk, Chelsea.—Mr. Jos. Wilkinson, of Cateaton-street, to Miss M. Boddy.

Died. At his house in *Whitehall*, at the advanced age of 82, James Duff, Earl of Fife, Viscount Macduff, Baron Braco, of Kilbride, in the county of Cavan, in Ireland. His lordship was created an English peer, by the title of Baron Fife, in Great Britain, and appointed Lord Lieutenant of Bamfshire. He is succeeded in his titles and estates by Colonel Duff, who was married to Miss Manners, daughter to Lady Louisa Manners, and sister to the Duchess of St. Albans. The late Earl was a nobleman of excellent sense and sound understanding, polite and pleasing in his manners. He left no issue. His estates were very large, and he had greatly improved them during the course of a long life. Mr. Pitt created him an English peer in 1790, for his adherence to Ministers during the King's illness in the preceding year. His lordship had been quite blind for near nine years past, and was led about by his servants; but his faculties and activity of mind were altogether unimpaired to the last. He lived in a magnificent style, both in Scotland and in London. In his person he was of the middle size, well made, and had been, when young, of a very agreeable figure. He was descended lineally from Macduff, so well known by the immortal pen of Shakespeare, in his tragedy of Macbeth,

beth, and was of one of the most illustrious Scottish families.—In *Old Burlington-street*, aged 72, his excellency Count de Bruhl, many years Minister from the Elector of Saxony, to his Britannic Majesty, Knight of the Order of the White Eagle.—In *Charles-street, Berkeley-square*, Lawrence Dundas Campbell, Esq. Editor of "The Asiatic Annual Register," and Author of several publications on East-India affairs.—In *Upper Seymour-street*, Miss Langham, daughter of the late Sir James Langham, Bart.—In *Argyle-street*, Lady Lumm, relict of Sir Francis Lumm, of Lummville, Ireland.—In *Hill-street*, Dr. John Hunter, F. R. S. Physician extraordinary to the Prince of Wales.—In *Southampton-street, Strand*, Wm. Burrows, Esq. eldest son, by his second marriage, of the late Sir Kildare Dixon Burrows, Bart. of Giltown, county of Kildare, Ireland.—Mr. Cox, one of his Majesty's pages. He had been for some time indisposed, but his death was hastened by the fright which he received in consequence of the late fire at St. James's Palace. He had scarcely got out of his apartments there when they fell in.—In *Upper Norton-street*, Mrs. Adair, widow of the late Mr. Serjeant Adair.—In *Upper Titchfield-street*, in the 81st year of his age, the Rev. C. Powlett, late Rector of St. Martin's, near Love, in Cornwall.—At *Hampstead*, aged 80, Lient.-Col. Robert Stewart.

BEDFORDSHIRE.

Married. At *Leighton Buzzard*, Henry Newland, of that place, Gent. (aged 68 years), heir at law of the late Abraham Newland, Esq. formerly Chief Cashier of the Bank of England, to Mrs. Mary Gurney, (aged 50,) relict of Mr. Joseph Gurney, of the same place. It is probable this lady was Cheviott's correspondent in the comedy of *The World*.

BERKSHIRE.

Married. At *Pangbourne*, Robert Trower, Esq. of Barbers' Hall, London, to Charlotte, daughter of the Rev. G. Wall.—At *Hurley*, George Keylock Rusden, B. A. of Pembroke-hall, Cambridge, to Ann, only daughter of the Rev. Thomas Townshend, Rector of Aistrop, Lincolnshire.

Died. At *Benfield*, William M'Kennon, Esq. of the island of Jamaica, many years a member of his Majesty's council in that island.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

Married. At *Aylesbury*, Thomas Tindall, Esq. to Anne, eldest daughter of Acton Chaplin, Esq. Clerk of the Peace for the County.

Died. At *Aylesbury*, aged 24, Mr. Henry Sherriff, eldest son of the keeper of the gaol of that town. While crossing the court-yard of the prison, the chimney of the debtor's hall fell upon him and crushed him to death.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

The subjects for Sir William Brown's prize medals for the present year are, for the Greek ode, *Desiderium Porsoni*—Latin ode, *Lusitania Liberata*—Greek epigram, *Αρχη ημισου παντος*—Latin epigram, *Strenua inertia*.

The late Dr. Smith's two prizes of 25l. each for the best proficients in mathematics and natural philosophy amongst the commencing Bachelors of Arts, are adjudged, the first to Mr. Edward Hall Alderson, of Caius College, the senior wrangler; and the second to Mr. John Shandly, of Caius, and Mr. George Cornelius Gorham, of Queen's, the merits of those two gentlemen being considered equal. This is the first instance of the prize being divided since it was instituted, which was in the year 1769.

The Rev. Thomas Herring, M. A. of Ben'et college; the Rev. Mr. Spragg, B. A. of Queen's; and Mr. John Fisher, B. A. of Magdalen college, are elected Fellows of their respective societies; and the Rev. William Grainger Cantley, B. A. of Pembroke-hall, a junior Fellow of Clare-hall.

The Rev. Denham Whitaker, L.L.D. formerly of St. John's college, is presented by the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Vicarage of Whally, in Lancashire, the history of which, published some years ago, he wrote with distinguished ability. The Rev. Samuel Vince, Plumian professor of Astronomy in this University, is collated to the Archdeaconry of Bedford, vacated by the death of the Rev. Dr. Shepherd. The Rev. Hugh Price, M.A. Fellow of Queen's college, is presented to the Rectory of Newton-Tony, near Salisbury, vacated by the death of the Rev. Dr. Ekins: and the Rev. Thomas Webster, M.A.

M.A. Fellow of the same college, to the Vicarage of Oakington, in this county, vacant by the promotion of the Rev. John Hunt.

The following gentlemen have been admitted Bachelors of Arts. Messrs. Slingsby, of *King's-college*—Arkwright, Bayley, Burnaby, Cookson, Eagle, Farhill, Fortescue, Franks, Gilby, Handley, Hargreaves, Hewett, Hewgill, Jeremy, Johnson, Lloyd, G. Lloyd, Lion, Marriet, Maxwell, Nicholson, Pearson, Plues, Smedley, Townley, Wheelwright, and Yarker, of *Trinity*—Burslem, Eaton, Forward, Harrison, Jones, Lateward, Oldham, Pritchard, Roberts, Steele, and Taylor, of *St. John's*—Davies, Fallowfield, Greenwood, King, and Ward, of *Peterhouse*—Bedwell, Evans, Fayrer, Howard, Leeson, Lucas, and Priestley, of *Clare-hall*—Buck, Drake, Ffarmerie, and Rusden, of *Pembroke-hall*—Alderson, (senior wrangler) Chad, Johnson, Parsons, Standly, Thurston, Turner, and Ward, of *Caius-college*—Coldham, Gostling, Hutchins, Monney, Nucella, and Shaw, of *Trinity-hall*—Bean, Cooper, and L'Oste, of *Benet-college*—Beavor, Glover, Gorham, Hey, Howard, and Thompson, of *Queen's*—Dealtry, Geldart, Girdlestone, and Harrison, of *Catharine-hall*—Atkinson, Metcalfe, and Ward, of *Jesus*—Baker, Fisher, Hilley, and Sandford, of *Magdalen*—Askew, Coppard, King, and Tuck, of *Emmanuel*—and Boudler, Butt, Carew, Halke, and Henson, of *Sydney-college*.

CHESHIRE.

Married. At *Prestbury*, the Rev. George Pownall, to Miss Twemlow, of *Macclesfield*.

Died. Aged 76, William Mackey, Esq. of Handbridge, formerly Adjutant of the Royal Chester Volunteers.—At *Middlewich*, aged 83, Thomas Nayler, Esq. attorney at law.—Aged 69, Thomas Cash, of Mosley, near Wilmslow, many years an approved minister among the people called Quakers; who to promote the great cause of religion and virtue travelled through various parts of the British Empire, and was equally distinguished for meekness, humanity, and universal philanthropy.

CORNWALL.

Died. At *Saltash*, aged 90, Robert Hukes, Esq. many years a member of the corporation.—At *Bodmin*, the Rev. John Lake, M. A. Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford.—At *St. Tudy*, Lient. Barnsley, of the Royal Navy.

CUMBERLAND.

The number of christenings, marriages, in *Carlisle*, in 1808, was as follows:—Christenings exclusive of those at the dissenting places of public worship, 306—Marriages, 135—Deaths, 315.—At *Workington*, Baptisms, 204—Marriages, 55—Burials, 173.—At *Harrington*, Baptisms, 55—Marriages, 16—Burials, 35.

Married. At *Whitehaven*, Thomas Parker, Esq. of Hull, to Miss Spedding, youngest daughter of the late James Spedding, Esq.

DERBYSHIRE.

Died. At *Chesterfield*, aged 74, Charles Kinder, Esq. He was distinguished through life by strict integrity, and active benevolence, and his death will be sincerely lamented beyond the circle of his relations and friends.—At *Alveston*, the Rev. Joseph Smith.—At *Kedleston-Hall*, aged 85, Mrs. Mary Garnet.

DEVONSHIRE.

Married. At *Witheridge*, Samuel Wilcocks, Esq. to Miss Jane Loosmore, of *Roseash*.—At *Lidford*, William Davey, Esq. dispenser at Dartmoor prison, to Miss Eliza Smith, of Plymouth Dock.

Died. At *Exeter*, aged 68, the Rev. Walter Kitson, prebendary of the cathedral church, and twenty-seven years rector of the parish of *St. Mary Major*, in that city.—At *Plymouth*, Walter Clotworthy, Esq.—Lieutenant-colonel Archbold, formerly of the Royal Marine forces, from which he was lately permitted to retire on full pay on account of his long service. The death of this gentleman is somewhat impressive, though he had attained almost to the full age of man. He was in as good health the day before his death as he had been for some time, and his natural cheerfulness was remarkably increased towards the evening, but about nine o'clock he was attacked with a complaint which terminated in his death by four next morning. He

was an intelligent and brave officer, and an affectionate and modest man. He served with great credit at the taking of the Havannah, where he was afterwards adjutant of the corps.—Aged 18, at the house of Capt. Seymour, Friary Lodge, Mr. Gibbings, late master's mate of his Majesty's ship, *Amethyst*. He was mortally wounded when gallantly rushing forward amongst the leading borders, to take possession of *La Thetis*.—He distinguished himself on board *La Pompée*, of 84 guns, Rear-Admiral Sir Sidney Smith, when signal officer of that ship, in February, 1807, at the passage of the Dardanelles.

DURHAM.

Died. Aged 83, the Rev. Henry Blackett, of Boldon, of which place he had been thirty-eight years rector. He was much respected by all ranks, and his death will be long regretted by the poor in his parish, who partook largely of his bounty.—At *Durham*, aged 80, Mrs. Ansty.—Aged 60, John Impett, Esq. late lieutenant and adjutant of the 36th foot. He was one of those who were so shamefully detained in France, at the recommencement of hostilities.—At *Gateshead*, aged 82, Captain A. Rutherford, of *Hellgate*.

ESSEX.

Died. At *Belchamp Hall*, the Countess of Dundonald.—At *Maldon*, aged 81, William Coleman, Esq.—At *Heavitree*, aged 20, Thomas Lydford Roell, Esq. of Liverpool.—At *Great Ilford*, Essex, aged 52, Emanuel Goodhart, Esq.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

The collections for charitable purposes by the Societies of Bristol, at the celebration of Colston's Anniversary, amounted in all to 752l. 17s. 6d. viz. the Anchor Society at the Assembly Room, 332l. 17s. The Dolphin Society at the White Lion, 263l. 5s. And the Grateful Society at Taylor's Hall, 186l.

It has been resolved to erect a Commercial Coffee-Room, for the accommodation of the Merchants and Traders of Bristol, the expense of which is calculated at five thousand pounds, the whole of that sum was raised by subscription, within less than four hours after the scheme was made public.

Married. At *Clifton*, the Rev. Robert Hoare, to Miss Purefoy, daughter of the late William Purefoy, Esq.

Died. At *Cirencester*, the Rev. John King, many years pastor of the dissenting congregation in that place.—At *Bristol*, aged 62, Mr. Samuel Dyer, of Berkeley Crescent, one of the people called Quakers.—An intimate knowledge of several of the learned languages, considerably assisted him as an antiquary, in forming a small but judicious collection of antient and British coins, &c. But this was a mere secondary pursuit; his principal views being directed towards the sublime truths of the Gospel; as a minister of which upwards of thirty years, it is hoped his zealous efforts have been effectually felt in many parts of the kingdom. By his removal the Society of Friends is deprived of one of its best members. A pattern of humility and piety, he died as he had lived in the full confidence and confirmed hope of the promises of his Great Master, leaving in the remembrance of his surviving friends a bright example of a life well spent, a course finished with joy.—By shipwreck on the coast of Ireland, on January 17th, James White, aged 43, master of the ship *Trusty*, belonging to Mr. Daniel, of Bristol. This melancholy accident happened in consequence of the vessel's being driven on a rock called Brazen-head, near Waterford, which the pilot in the dark mistook for the entrance of Cork harbour. Of the persons on board, nineteen perished, and seven were saved. During the whole time of impending destruction, Mr. White remained perfectly calm, employed in encouraging the crew, and preparing means for their preservation. Though an excellent swimmer, he would not attempt to escape by himself, nor quit a boy, who was a passenger, and clung closely to him. He was a man of great integrity and firmness of mind, united with the kindest affections, and with a strong sense of religion, of the rational and cheerful kind; qualities which rendered him respected by all who knew him.

HAMPSHIRE.

Married. At *Heckfield*, the Right Hon. Sir Arthur Paget, K. B. to Lady Augusta Fane, second daughter of the Earl of Westmoreland, lately Lady Boringdon.

Boringdon. The Bill divorcing the bride from her late husband, had passed the House of Peers only two days before.

Died. Suddenly, at *Stubington*, near *Titchfield*, aged 50, *Jonathan Faulkner*, Esq. Rear-admiral of the red. He was the eldest son of the late Admiral *Faulkner*, whose family claims a pre-eminence in the naval history of the British isles, for from the close of the seventeenth century, and even previous to that time, it has uniformly adorned the list of our admiralty. One of his ancestors, Capt. *William Faulkner*, had the honour of receiving the flag of *the Great*, when serving under Sir *John Norris* in the *Baltic*, in 1715. The subject of this notice was advanced to first rank in 1782, and made a flag officer in 1804. By his death his country has lost a gallant and meritorious officer, and his family an excellent husband, father, and friend. No one was more deservedly esteemed in the neighbourhood where he resided; generous, hospitable, and benevolent, his name will ever be revered by all who knew him. Admiral *F.* married the eldest daughter of *Lieut.-General Spry*, of the *Marines*, by whom he has left three children; his eldest son, *Jonathan*, has just commenced his career in the Navy, as a Midshipman with Admiral *Purvis*, in the *Mediterranean*.—At *Crabthorn*, aged 75, *James Green*, Esq. one of the oldest officers of the *Royal Marine Corps* on the list. He was at the taking of *Havannah*, in 1760, under Sir *J. Pocock* and Lord *Albemarle*.—At *Catfield*, near *Fareham*, honoured and beloved by the service, to which he was a distinguished ornament, Rear-Admiral *Edward O'Bryan*, who so gallantly broke the line when commanding the *Monarch*, in the memorable action off *Camperdown*.—At *Portsmouth*, near *Southampton*, *Lieutenant-General Hibbert*, formerly *Commander-in-Chief* of the *East India Company's* forces in *Bengal*.—At *Tangier Park*, aged 67, *Thomas Limbrey Matthew*, Esq. clerk of the peace for the county.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

Married. At *Kington*, aged 51, *Miss Gwynne Meredith*, eldest daughter of *Bridgewater Meredith*, Esq.

Died. Aged 61, *Richard Chambers*, Esq. of *Whitborne-court*. He served the office of *High Sheriff* of the county in 1793.—At *Hereford*, *James Woodhouse*, Esq. many years steward to *Guy's Hospital*.—*Mrs. Cove*, relict of the *Rev. Morgan Cove*, M. A. formerly vicar of *Pipe*, near this city, and sister to the *Rev. James Jones*, D. D. archdeacon of *Hereford*. She had nearly completed her 94th year, and died full of days and good works deeply lamented by her family, and no less regretted by all who could appreciate her value.—Aged 51, *Mr. Francis Havard*, sen. He was a very old member of the corporation, and had served the office of *Mayor* in 1792.—At *Bercher*, near *Leominster*, aged 81, *Mrs. Ward*, relict of the late *Adam Ward*, Esq.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

Married. At *Eastford*, *Thomas William Lindell*, Esq. of *Hemingford-Grey*, to *Margaret*, second daughter of the *Rev. Samuel Hunt*.

Died. The *Rev. James Devie*, vicar of *Stanground* with *Faret*, formerly Fellow of *Emmanuel College*, *Cambridge*, B. A. 1744, M. A. 1748, B. D. 1755.—At *Huntingdon*, aged 52, deeply lamented by his surviving relatives, and regretted by an extensive circle of friends and acquaintance, *Captain Thomas Stephenson*, of the *Royal Navy*.—At *Chesterton*, aged 32, *Mr. Richard Hinsbey*, surgeon.

KENT.

Died. At *Tunbridge Wells*, *John Smith*, Esq. of *Homerton*.—At *Ramsgate*, aged 95, *Mrs. Sarah Smith*.—At *Beckingham*, *George William Dickes*, Esq. Secretary to the Archbishop, and principal Registrar of the Ecclesiastical Court of *Canterbury*. To the duties of his office he paid the most exemplary attention, and conducted himself with that singular propriety as to possess not only the peculiar regard of his Grace, but also the friendship and esteem of every Clergyman in the diocese; uniting in his person the highest principles of honour, with the perfect manners of a gentleman. To those who had the advantage of being his intimates he was a warm and sincere friend, and will

he long remembered for the universal cheerfulness and urbanity of his manners; to his own family he was ever tender and indulgent, and to them his loss is irreparable.—At *Dover*, ——— Codling, Master of the *Little Ceulia*, of London. She took a pilot on board a small distance to the Westward, to bring her for the harbour, during which the master took an opportunity to jump overboard. A rope was immediately thrown to him, with which he could easily have recovered the vessel, but he would not avail himself of it, and plunged directly under the water. We hear he has left a wife and family. It is said he was brother to the Codling who some few years back was hanged for scuttling his ship off Brighton.

LANCASHIRE.

Married. At *Liverpool*, Peter Thomas Huggins, Esq. of Nevis, to Miss Moore, daughter of Mr. Moore, of Richmond gardens.—At *Eccles*, Jonathan Dorning, of Swinton, Esq. Ensign in the Swinton volunteers, to Miss Betty Ratcliffe, of Sale-lane, near Leigh.—At *Bradford*, Laurence Halstead, Esq. of Burnley, to Anna, youngest daughter of the late John Preston, Esq. of Bradford, in the county of York.

Died. At *Aughton*, near Ormskirk, aged 83, Mrs. Vanburgh, mother of the Rev. George Vanburgh, rector of that place.—Mrs. Nuttall, wife of the Rev. Mr. Nuttall, of Swinton, near Manchester.—At *Preston*, aged 78, Thomas Walshmon, Esq.—At *Liverpool*, James Houghton, Esq. Trueman-street.—Aged 60, William Cubbin, Esq. Duke-street.—Aged 52, after a long and very painful illness, which he bore with exemplary patience and resignation, William Rathbone, merchant.—At *Bolton*, aged 86, John Hindle, Esq. of Sharples. The following letter to the Secretary at War, is a singular and very honourable testimony of his military service.—“SIR, Having seen an advertisement from the War Office, requiring an account in writing of the age, past services, and present place of abode of each officer on the half-pay of the British establishment, I do hereby, as one of that number, comply with your request. I am in my 80th year.—I joined the 20th regiment of infantry in Flanders as private in the year 1744.—In 1745 I fought at the battle of Fontenoy, in the same year I fought at the battle of the Pass of Mall, where I was wounded in the thigh by a musket ball; and again in the same year, the regiment being ordered into England, on account of the rebellion, was present at the siege of Carlisle: and in the year 1746, fought at the battle of Culloden. In the year 57 and 58, I was with the said regiment, upon the expeditions to the coast of France: the same year 58, the regiment being ordered to Germany, I fought at the battle of Minden in the year 59, where I lost my right eye by a musket ball, which was not extracted from the socket till the 13th day after I had received the wound.—In the year 60 I fought at the battle of Camper, upon the Lower Rhine, commanded by the Hereditary Prince of Brunswick.—In the year 1761, I was recalled from Germany, and appointed Quarter-master in the 98th regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Grey, in which I went to the siege of Bellisle, and after that conquest was ordered to the West Indies to the siege of Martinique, where I remained till the peace in 63; from which regiment I now hold my half-pay.—In the year 1779, I was appointed Lieutenant and Pay-master to the Royal Lancashire Volunteers, commanded by Sir Thomas Egerton, Bart. which was disbanded at the peace 83.—In the year 1794 I was appointed Pay-master to the Lancashire Fencible Cavalry, commanded by Colonel Leigh; in the year 97 appointed Cornet; and in 98 appointed Lieutenant; in this year the regiment volunteered to Ireland, where it remained till disbanded, the 15th September, 1800. I have to add, that if it be his Majesty's pleasure to appoint me to any situation that I may be thought capable of fulfilling, I shall, at any time, be both ready and willing to give my best services.

Bolton le Moors, 28th June, 1803.

JOHN HINDLE.”

LEICESTERSHIRE.

Married. At *Leicester*, the Rev. John Benson, M. A. late of St. John's College, Cambridge, to Miss Lovett, daughter of the Rev. John Lovett, formerly rector of Willoughby Waterless.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

A small urn was lately dug up near the entrenchments which surround the castle at Bourne, containing about sixty Roman coins—one of them is an aureus of Nero, the others are *denarii* and *sestertii* of Constantine, Augustus.

Married. At *Gainsborough*, Henry Smith, Esq. to Rachael, eldest daughter of William Etherington, Esq.—At *Gosberton*, Charles Bonner, Esq. of Spalding, to Ann, youngest daughter of John George Calthorpe, Esq.

Died. At *Grimsthorpe Castle*, aged 79, His Grace Brownlow Bertie Duke of Ancaster and Kesteven, Marquis and Earl of Lindsey, lord lieutenant and custos rotulorum of the county of Lincoln, and recorder of Boston. His Grace having no male issue the dukedom and marquise are extinct, but the title of Earl of Lindsey devolves upon General Albemarle Bertie, M. P. for Stamford.

NORFOLK.

Married. At *Feltwell*, the Rev. William Newcome, rector of Edburton, in *Sussex*, and eldest son of the late primate of Ireland, to Catharine, youngest daughter and coheirress of the late Rev. Cyril Clough, of the former place.—At *Ormesby St. Michael*, the Rev. George Lucas, rector of Catfield, to Mrs. Montague, widow of the late G. Montague, Esq.

Died. At *Norwich*, aged 72, Mr. John Stoddart, coach-maker to his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester. He served the office of Sheriff of Norwich, in the year 1797.—At *Wells*, aged 70, John Hill, Esq. of Gressenhall.—At *Bawburgh*, aged 82, Mr. John Wagstaffe, one of the society of friends. He was born at Overton, in Hampshire, and at an early age was bound apprentice to a baker, in the metropolis, where during those leisure hours, which even the busiest may create, he laid the foundation of that scientific respectability which he afterwards attained. His education being extremely limited afforded no presage of ripening talents, but his ardent thirst after knowledge enabled him to overcome every obstacle to its advancement. At the expiration of his apprenticeship he settled in Norwich, and amidst the cares of a family, and that praiseworthy attention to business by which he accumulated an ample provision for the comfort of his declining years, he acquired an extensive knowledge of entomology, botany, and other departments of natural history, which were reduced to practice after his retiring to Bawburgh, where he soon became distinguished for his skilful practice of gardening and agriculture. He was among the first promoters of the setting of wheat, which now so generally and beneficially prevails. His mind, expanded by liberal cultivation, exhibited a brilliancy and compass of imagination, united with a vigour of understanding, rarely possessed, and fully exemplified the remark of Dr. Johnson, that “a tradesman by the economy of his time, and a devotion of his leisure hours to study, may become, if not a learned, at least a very useful and intelligent man.” Of his social character, cheerfulness, integrity, and active benevolence were the leading traits. His morality was that of the Christian dispensation, and his life devoted to virtuous and honourable occupations, was rewarded with a peaceful close and a happy earnest of unfading immortality.—On his passage to Gottenburgh, Arthur Branthwayt, Esq. late a captain in the 2d dragoon guards, son of the late Rev. Arthur Branthwayt, of Stiffkey, in Norfolk, and the last of the male line of the ancient and respectable family of the Branthways, of Norfolk. He was on board the *Crescent* frigate, lately lost off the coast of Jutland, and one amongst the unfortunate sufferers who perished on that melancholy occasion.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

Married. At *Carlton*, by special licence, Brigadier General Montessor, to the Right Honourable Lady Sondes, of Rockingham-castle.

Died. At *Dunentry*, aged 23, Maria Ann, wife of Clarke Watkins, Esq.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

Married. At *Whittingham*, George Laing, of Longhoughton, Esq. to Miss Law, daughter of the Rev. Mr. Law, vicar of Whittingham.

Died. At *Newcastle*, Mr. John Cram, one of the elder brethren of the Trinity House.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

Married. At *Bulwell*, the Rev. John Robinson, of Stoke-Golding, Lincolnshire, to Maria, youngest daughter of the Rev. Robert Stanser, Rector of Bulwell.—At *Ratcliffe-upon Trent*, William Worth, Esq. of Gripple, in the county of Lincoln, to Miss Taylor, daughter of John Taylor, Esq.—At *Nottingham*, the Rev. J. Grundy, one of the ministers of the Unitarian congregation, to Miss Hancock, only daughter of John Hancock, Esq.

Died. At *Tuxford*, Richard Berks, Esq. late Adjutant in the Nottinghamshire regiment of Militia: he served as Lieutenant of Marines at the taking of Quebec, under General Wolfe.—At *Newark*, aged 63, J. Jesop, Esq.—At *Westhorpe*, aged 31, Mrs. Claye, wife of the Rev. William Claye.—At *Cropwell Butler*, near Bingham, Mr. John Newton, many years a local preacher in the Methodist connexion.

OXFORDSHIRE.

Mr. Edward Davison, of Corpus Christi College, is elected a fellow of Magdalen-hall. The Rev. John Crosby Clark, of St. John's college; Thomas Davies, of Merton; George Rasleigh, of Oriel; Edward Durell, of Pembroke; William Dowell, of Wadham; Mr. Benjamin Dent, of Worcester; Rev. John Harward, of Trinity; and Mr. Robinson Esdale, of Corpus Christi college; B. A. are admitted Masters of Arts, and Messrs. Ambrose, Dawson, Ashurst, Turner, Gilbert, William Stewart, and George William Newton, of Brazen nose: John Gordon McCaul, and John Noble Shipton, of Balliol; and Edward James Townsend, of Merton, Bachelors of Arts.

The Rev. J. H. Mappleton, L.L. B. fellow of New college, is presented to the rectory of Christ Church, Southwark, vacated by the death of the Rev. Dr. Ackland.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence has appointed the Rev. Peter Wood, A. B. of Oriel college, to be one of his domestic chaplains. The Rev. E. B. James, A. M. is appointed chaplain of Magdalen college, in the room of the Rev. J. Dix; and the Rev. John Nance, A. M. fellow of Worcester college, domestic chaplain to the Earl of Oxford.

The Bishop of Exeter, visitor of Exeter college, has given his decision in the case of Mr. Dupre's fellowship, (see p. 180) declaring that the fellowship is tenable with the living of St. John's, in the island of Jersey, not only by the decree of Bishop Fisher, but by the statute of the college, *De promotione et causis deserendi collegium*.

Died. At *Adderbury*, aged 54, Mr. Thomas Woolston, who for upwards of twenty-nine years had kept the respectable boarding-school in that place, with much credit to himself and advantage to his pupils. In him society has been deprived of a most useful and valuable member; and his loss to all his very numerous and extensive acquaintance will be the subject of long and sincere regret. To the poetical, horticultural, and mathematical departments of several of the most respectable periodical publications of the day he was a frequent and able contributor; and in his knowledge in arithmetic in all its various branches it is presumed he had but few equals.

RUTLANDSHIRE.

Died. At *Barrowden*, aged 70, Mr. Cunningham, feltmonger. He had spent the preceding evening with a party of friends, and was to have been married on the following day.—At *Oakeham*, aged 63, Mr. Gibson, grocer. He accidentally scratched his finger with a pin on the previous Munday, which brought on a mortification, and occasioned his death.—At *North Luffenham*, aged 84, Mr. W. B. Clark.

SHROPSHIRE.

Married. At *Shrewsbury*, the Rev. George Watkin Marsh, rector of Hope Bowdler, to Sarah Cheney, second daughter of the late Cheney Hart, M. D. of Shrewsbury.—At *Bridgnorth*, the Rev. W. W. Holland, of New college, Oxford, to Miss Murray, daughter of the late Mr. Murray, of Fleet-street, London.

Died. At *Whitchurch*, aged 69, Beatrice, relict of the late Daniel Wycheley. Her amiable disposition and goodness of heart had endeared her to a large

large circle of relations and friends, by whom her memory will be long revered. The loss of so worthy a woman will be severely felt by the poor, who have so often experienced her charitable donations.—At *Ellesmere*, Lieutenant John Fellows, of the North and West Shropshire Local Militia. His loss will be much felt in the regiment, who held him in high estimation, but still more by his friends and those in closer habits of intimacy. His upright conduct and correct manners secured him the esteem of his own rank, and his benevolence and extensive charities endeared him to those in more humble stations.—At *Bishop's Castle*, aged 101, Mrs. Gwilliam, formerly of the Nag's-head in that town.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

Married. At *Bath*, the Rev. Matthew Mapletoff, B. D. rector of Easington, in Cleveland, to Miss Este, only daughter of Charles Este, Esq. of Portland-place.—At *Frome*, J. N. Franklyn, Esq. of Bristol, to Anne, youngest daughter of S. Humphries, Esq. of Frome.—At *Bruton*, Edward Daniel, jun. Esq. of Bristol, to Harriett, fourth daughter of the late Mr. Sweeting, solicitor, Taunton.—At *Perrington*, Henry Tripp, Esq. captain in the West Mendip Legion, to Miss Dean, niece of John Dean, Esq. of Edinworth.

Died. At *Bishop's Lydiard*, at an advanced age, Miss S. Yea, only surviving sister of the late Sir Wm. Yea, Bart. of Pyrland-House, near Taunton.—At *Taunton*, the Hon. Sir Jacob Wolff, Bart. late of Melly-fent Abbey.—At *Bath*, Aged 88, the Rev. John Duncan, D. D. formerly of St. John's college, Oxford. He was forty-five years rector of South Warmborough, in Hampshire, and author of an "Essay on Happiness; address to the rational advocates of the Church of England," and other theological works. Liberal in his principles as a theologian, warm in his attachment as a friend, and earnest in his endeavours to promote the cause of rational piety, as a minister of the gospel, he shone to the last a bright example of private virtue and professional excellence.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

Died. At *Oakage*, near Wolseley Bridge, Thomas Harryman. His death was occasioned by the following singular circumstance: he was assisting his father to plant trees, and finding a small white stone he put it in his mouth. A hide of pheasants getting up near him, he suddenly elevated his head, and the stone stopping in its way down his throat, he was choked before any assistance could be rendered him.

SUFFOLK.

Died. Aged 70, the Lady of Sir Thomas Hazelrigge, of Hoxne Hall, in this county. Her departure from this world was as sudden as it was unexpected. She retired to bed the preceding evening in good health, but expired in less than three hours afterwards. Her suavity of disposition and extensive charities will cause her loss to be long deplored by her intimate friends, as well as the numerous objects of her benevolence.—At *Northwood-place*, near Beccles, aged 75, the Rev. Thomas William Temple, rector of Lindley, in this county. He was formerly of Bene't college, Cambridge, B. A. 1757. M. A. 1760. B. D. 1768. D. D. 1792.—At *Bury*, John Cumberland, Esq.—At *Long Melford*, aged 77, Mrs. Richardson, wife of Thomas Richardson, Esq.—

SURREY.

Died. At *Chamberwell Grove*, aged 83, Peter Pope, Esq. late of Fenchurch-street, and deputy of Langbourn Ward, of which he had been a representative in the Common Council thirty-seven years.—Aged 83, William Montague, Esq. late principal clerk to the Chamberlain of London, which situation he resigned some time since after performing its duties almost forty years.—Found murdered near *Deptford*, George Johnston, Esq. lieutenant in his Majesty's navy. The deceased was about forty, and had most respectable connections in town; he had been first lieutenant of the *Alkmaar*, and afterwards of the *Standard*. While belonging to the latter a severe fit of illness occasioned his leaving the ship, but on his recovery, he was appointed to the same rank on board the *Edyren* sloop, Captain Pengelly. The day preceding his death

he had dined with his brother-in-law Mr. Willatts, of Brewer-street, and after taking leave of some other friends, set out to join his ship at the Great Nore. At three o'clock next morning his body was found dreadfully mangled on the Kent-road. The murderers are not yet discovered, but a person who gave evidence before the Coroner, as to the discovering the body, has been taken into custody on a suspicion of being himself the perpetrator of this barbarous murder.

SUSSEX.

Died. At *Arundel*, Mrs. Swinburne, relict of the late Henry Swinburne, Esq. of Hamsterley, Durham.—At Lord Robert Spencer's, *Woolbeding*, aged 28, after an illness of four days, brought on by a cold that had been on him some time, Sir Francis Vincent, Bart.

WESTMORELAND.

Married. The Rev. John Weller, Rector of Sulhamstead, and Master of Appleby School, to Miss Wade, of Appleby.

Died. At Ambleside, Lieutenant James Stewart, of the 88th foot, son of the late lieutenant-general James Stewart.

WILTSHIRE.

Married. At *Heytesbury*, the Hon. William Eliot, to Miss A'Court, eldest daughter of Sir W. P. H. A'Court, Bart. of Heytesbury House.

Died. At *Salisbury*, aged 87, Mrs. Foster, relict of the Rev. — Foster, late rector of Patney, and vicar of Britford, both in this county. She was a woman of great strength of mind, of singular piety and benevolence, beloved and esteemed by all ranks of society, and by the poor of this city, and the neighbouring parish of Britford, whose wants she was in the constant habit of relieving, her loss will be long felt and regretted.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

Married. At *Worcester*, the Rev. George Durant, of Clent, in Staffordshire, to Miss Goodman, eldest daughter of the late Rev. Godfrey Goodman, of Kemerton, Gloucestershire.

YORKSHIRE.

From the Leeds Bill of Mortality, it appears, that during the year 1808, the baptisms amounted to 1435—marriages 524—burials 695. Decrease in baptisms from the preceding year 115, in marriages 172; increase of burials 60. At *Doncaster*, the account for 1808, in baptisms 227—marriages 54—burials 139.

Married. At *York*, William Oldfield, Esq. to Miss Ann Tamer Wilson, second daughter of Alderman Wilson.—At *Halifax*, William Voase, Esq. of Hull, to Miss Rawden, daughter of Christopher Rawden, Esq. of Underbank.—At *Masham*, Samuel Broomhead Ward, Esq. of Mount Pleasant, Birmingham, to Miss Martindale.

Died. At *York*, aged 83, Henry Raper, Esq. father of the corporation of that city. He served the office of Lord Mayor in 1765, and again in 1782.—Aged 66, Joseph Collins, Esq. of Wilton, near Hull.—At *Leeds*, aged 52, John Cookson, Esq. one of the common council-men of that borough.—At *Sheffield*, Mrs. Colley, relict of the late James Eely Colley, Esq. of Liverpool.—Aged 69, Ralph Ferry, Esq. of Thorpe. On his return from Sunderland, through the darkness of the night he lost his road, got among a quantity of drifted snow, where he perished, and was not found until the next morning.

WALES.

Married. The Rev. William Jones, of Lanlidon, to Miss Lucy Lloyd, daughter of the late Evan Lloyd, Esq. of Talhairn, Denbighshire.—At *Swansea*, Alexander Raby, Esq. of the island of Jersey, to Jane, second daughter of the late John Reer, Esq. of Killymawenllwydd, Carmarthenshire.—At *Builth*, Morgan Llewelyn, Esq. of Blaengrŵach, to Miss Margaret Williams, of Llwynbestlan, near Llandovery.—At *Llanharan*, Morgan Popkin Traherne, Esq. of Coltrahen, to Miss Jenkins, daughter of the late Richard Jenkins, Esq. of Pantynawell, Glamorgan.—At *Rhyddlan*, Flintshire, Charles Armand Dashwood, Esq.

Esq. of Stanford-hall, Nottinghamshire, to Miss Anna Maria Shipley, second daughter of the Dean of St. Asaph.—At *Chirk*, the Rev. H. Bickerstaff, to Miss Ann Lloyd, of Maesgwyn, Denbighshire.—At *Wrexham*, the Rev. Thomas Roberts, one of the Canons of the Cathedral of Bangor, and eldest son of the late Archdeacon of Merioneth, to Miss Owen, daughter of the late Rev. Edward Owen, Rector of Llanfwrog, Denbighshire.

Died. At *Roath-court*, near Cardiff, Mrs. Rigby, wife of Peter Rigby, Esq.—At *Abergwilly*, near Carmarthen, aged 102, Mrs. Diana Rees.—At *Hubberston*, near Milford, John Allen, Esq. He retired to rest to all appearance in perfect health, and next morning was found a corpse.

SCOTLAND.

A new patent for the Edinburgh Theatre has been granted by his Majesty to the Duke of Buccleuch and Lord Melville. As it has been thought expedient to vest the controul of the dramatic amusements of that city in a committee of gentlemen residing on the spot, the noble patentees have assigned the patent to the following gentlemen:—The Lord Provost of Edinburgh, the Lord Advocate for Scotland, the Solicitor General for Scotland, the Keeper of the Signet, the Dean of the Faculty of Advocates, and the successors in office of these gentlemen, the Lord Chief Baron of Exchequer, Sir Patrick Murray, of Ochertyre, Bart. Gilbert Innes, of Stow, Esq. John Hay, Esq. banker, in Edinburgh, Henry Mackenzie, Esq. David Hume, Esq. Advocate, Walter Scott, Esq. Advocate, and William Erskine, Esq. Advocate;—with power to them to grant leases from time to time, not exceeding the term of five years.

At a general meeting of the Highland Society, held at Edinburgh the 28th of January, the Society's gold medal was voted to Angus Mackay, of the 71st regiment, as a mark of the Society's approbation of his soldier-like conduct in refusing General Berthier's watch and purse, after having taken him prisoner at the battle of Vimiera. At the same time a handsome highland pipe, with a suitable inscription, was ordered to be presented to George Clark, a piper in the same regiment, for his meritorious and spirited conduct in the same action, he having continued to play on his pipes, to animate his comrades, after being severely and dangerously wounded. We seize this opportunity of correcting a mistake in our last volume, page 376, where, through misinformation, both these brave fellows were said to be of the name of Ross.

Married. At Edinburgh, Wm. Falconer, Esq. of Brick-hall, to Ann, fifth daughter of the late John Sutherland, Esq. of Westar.—At *Drummond-house*, Robert Smith, Esq. of Mountblow, Jamaica, to Jane, eldest daughter of Wm. Read, Esq. of Glasgow.—At *Dunkeld*, John Drummond, Esq. of Strathallan, to the Right Hon. Lady Amelia Sophia Murray, second daughter of his Grace the Duke of Athol.

Died. At Edinburgh, James Ross Farquharson, Esq. of Invercauld, Captain in the Royal Navy.—John Smith, Esq. of Balharry, W. S.—At Edinburgh, Robert Nasmyth, Esq. advocate.—Aged 83, Mr. Alexander Morrison, late of Wright's Houses.—At *Montrose*, aged 83, Lieutenant James Auchterlony, of the Edinburgh Castle Invalids.—At *Crautit*, in Orkney, in the prime of life, Jas. Watson, Esq. factor for the Right Hon. Lord Dundas.—At *Ayr*, aged 81, Mr. R. Tennant.—At *Bothwell Park*, Mrs. Ann Storrie, wife of William Hamilton, Esq. formerly of Canongate, Edinburgh.—At *Leuchars*, in the 68th year of his age, and 34th of his ministry, the Rev. Thomas Kettle.—At *Lethnot*, aged 63, in the 33d year of his ministry, the Rev. John Taylor.—At *Nith Bank*, aged 81, Mrs. Isabella Johnstone, relict of Adam Murray, Esq. of Bellriding.—At *St. Monance*, aged 97, Mrs. Isabel Low, relict of Mr. John Mackay.—At *Muirhouse*, aged 82, in the 45th year of his ministry, the Rev. Alexander Imlach.—At *Hamilton*, aged 47, Archibald Burns, Esq. Commissary of Hamilton and Compsie, and Sheriff Substitute of Lanarkshire.—Aged 64, Mr. Alexander Gray, chief magistrate of that burgh.—At *Aberdeen*, aged 80, Mrs. Christian Ker, daughter of John Ker, Esq. formerly professor of Greek in King's college, in that university.—At *Abbotshall*, in the fortieth year of his ministry, aged 73, the Rev. George Shaw, minister of that parish.

IRELAND:

IRELAND.

A motion was lately made in the Court of Chancery, for an attachment against an Attorney, for publishing in the Newspapers the proceedings of that Court, in reversing the decree of another, as it cast reflections upon some of the parties, and introduced matter which was hurtful to their feelings. The Chancellor said, he was proud to find the proceedings of Courts published, and he wished to see a great deal more of them, as they answered most salutary purposes. It shewed the people how to guide themselves, when similar cases would occur; and, if judges acted wrong, the proceedings ought to be published. He, for his part, wished every decree he had made, or would make, was in every newspaper in the kingdom; if the press was to be gagged, God knows where it would end.—Motion refused.

Married. At *Dublin*, Henry Smith, of his Majesty's 11th light dragoons, and eldest son of Henry Smith, Esq. of Beabeg, county Meath, to Eliza, eldest daughter of William Ratcliffe, Esq. late Colonel of the Wicklow Militia.—At *Killala*, the Rev. W. Burrows, M.A. to Miss Stock, eldest daughter of the Bishop of Killala.

Died. Aged 70, Benj. Frend, Esq. of Boskell, county of Limerick, Alderman of Limerick, and Justice of Peace for that county.—At *Newtown*, King's county, Sir Michael Smith, Bart. late Master of the Rolls in Ireland, and many years a Baron in the Court of Exchequer. Sir Michael is succeeded in his honours by Sir Wm. Smith, a Baron of the Exchequer. By Sir Michael's death, a pension of 2,700*l.* which he enjoyed as a retired Judge, ceases.—At *Lurgan*, aged 67, John Cuppage, Esq. sen. Colonel in the East India Company's service. He was the means of saving the lives of the prisoners confined by Tippoo Sultan, by his extraordinary exertions in supplying them with provisions. These gentlemen presented him with a handsome piece of plate, with an inscription expressive of their gratitude.—At *Ballynahymore*, Tipperary, Ambrose Mandeville, Esq. one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for that county.—Early in Sept. last, in the island of Marigalante, John Brown, Esq. a native of Belfast, and for some years a merchant in Dublin. The manner of his death renders it the more distressing to his relatives and numerous friends. On his passage from Antigua to another island, on a mercantile speculation, the ship he sailed in was captured, and carried by the French into Marigalante, shortly before it was taken by the English forces. The French force having come to a determination to capitulate, they liberated Mr. Brown, for the purpose of communicating with the British. Unhappily his joy at his deliverance made him neglect the precaution of taking with him a flag of truce, and on approaching the posts of the British, he received a ball in the heart from a black centinel in their service.

FOREIGN OCCURRENCES.

Married. At *Bombay*, Andrew Moore Dawe, Esq. second son of Hill Dawe, Esq. of Dilcheat, Somerset, to Miss Hare, daughter of Richard Hare, Esq. of Somerset-place, Bath.—At *Serampore*, the Rev. W. Carcy, D.D. Professor of the Sanskrit and Bengalee languages, in the College of Fort William, to Lady Charlotte Amelia Von Rumour, daughter of the late Countess Ahlfeldt. The above gentleman formerly was Minister of the Baptist congregation at Moulton, near Northampton, and is now Superintendent of the Missionaries at Serampore.

Died. The hand of death has descended with accumulated weight upon our countrymen in Spain, of whom not less than six thousand have fallen by the sword of the enemy, or sunk under the hardships of the retreat to Corunna. No official account of our loss has as yet been published; but the names of the following officers have reached us. General Anstruther; when unable to mount his horse, being, to use his own words, "quite done up," he was put into a carriage, but died soon after his reaching Corunna, of the fever brought on by incessant fatigue. Lieut. Col. McKenzie, of the 45th regt.; Major Stanhope, of the 59th; Lieut. Col. Napier, of the 92d. This gentleman was son of Alexander

Alexander Napier, Esq. of Blackston, in Renfrewshire, and though only thirty-four years of age, had been in the army nineteen years, the greater part of which were employed in active service in various climates, particularly in the expeditions to Holland, Egypt, and Zealand. Lieut. Dawson, of the Royals; Ensign Beerden, 4th regt.; Lieut. Chevin, 27th; Capt. Digby, 31st; Major Napier, Major Stanhope, and Lieut. Wilson, 50th; Lieut. Col. Fane, and Major McGregor, of the 59th; and Lieut. Noble, of the 95th rifle regt. only son of the late Mr. Noble, of Wakefield, Yorkshire. He was bravely animating his men in the heat of the battle, when he received a shot through the head and instantly expired.—Lieutenant Col. Michael Symes, of the 76th regiment, died during the voyage home; a man whose civil and military virtues and accomplishments, were equally the objects of admiration. He possessed the highest capacity for science, with the most shining talents for action; and was not less endowed with the amiable qualities which embellish private life. He was twice Ambassador to the court of Ava; and published an account of his first embassy, which gained him distinguished reputation as a diplomatic and literary character.—Cap. Duncan Campbell, of the Royal Highlanders. Capt. Heylier of the 16th Dragoons. Capt. Carthew of the Royal Artillery, and Captain Burrard of the Guards, eldest son of Sir Harry Burrard, and Aide-de-camp to Sir John Moore, died also during their passage, and Lieut. Vaughan of the 76th regiment, Major Crigan of the 66th, son of the Bishop of Sodor and Man, and Major Archibald Argyle Campbell of the 42nd, lived only to reach Plymouth. The last mentioned gentleman, who is cut off at the early age of 41, was son of the late Duncan Campbell, Esq. of Killochranon, Lieutenant Colonel of the Bredalbane Fencibles, and was distinguished by every qualification that can render an officer valuable to his country. The officers of the 42d regiment, in which he served twenty-two years, lament with unfeigned concern, the loss of an inestimable friend, and the soldiers as for a father, whose exemplary life became the sacrifice of incessant fatigue, sustained in the arduous discharge of duty, and in unwearied exertion to alleviate their hardships. To these we have to add, Lieut. Colonel Tucker of the 7th Light Dragoons, the Hon. Major Cavendish, M. P. for Aylesbury, Capt. Duckenfield, eldest son of Sir N. Duckenfield, and the Hon. Lieut. E. Waldegrave, second brother of Earl Waldegrave, all of the same regiment, who after surviving the hardships of a disastrous campaign, were shipwrecked on the coast of Cornwall. We close the melancholy list with the Commander in Chief, the gallant Sir John Moore, who received a mortal wound under the walls of Corunna; while directing the 42nd to charge the enemy. The fatal cannon-ball struck the ground about twenty yards from the spot where he was placed, from which it bounded and took him in the shoulder. It knocked him off his horse, but he soon recovered himself, rose from the ground, and shewed a disposition to remount, before he perceived that his arm was gone. He was then placed in a sort of car or waggon, but it had scarcely begun to move, when he complained of the pain caused by the motion of the vehicle. Some blankets were then procured, in which he was placed, and conveyed into the town, where he soon afterwards expired. He said very little after he received his wound. The surgeons indeed expressed surprise that it did not produce immediate death, as, besides the loss of his arm, his side was all bruised and shattered by the ball.

In the death of this accomplished soldier, his country has sustained a loss, which an age may not repair, particularly, if that military system, under which genuine merit has so rarely been able to rise from obscurity to eminence, shall continue to prevail among us. He was born at Glasgow, where his father, Dr. John Moore, afterwards known to the world by numerous works of literature, which rank him high as a just and philosophical observer of human life, as well as an elegant and pleasing writer, then practised as a physician. Dr. Moore travelled with the late Duke of Hamilton, on the Continent; and on this occasion he was accompanied by his son, who had thus an excellent opportunity of finishing his education, and acquiring a facility in the modern languages. Though destined from his birth to be a soldier, he did not confine himself to the study of the military art only. He was a finished gentleman and an elegant scholar;

a man of science and philosophy. His person was manly and prepossessing; his deportment was grave; his words few; but every part of his countenance was marked with intelligence and thought. In private life his manners were affable and conciliating, and will never be forgotten by those with whom he lived in habits of intimacy. He entered the army early in life, and as he soon displayed his military talents, his rise was rapid. In 1801, he was appointed Colonel of the 52d regiment, and rose to the rank of Major-General in 1802. Corsica was the first scene in which he had an opportunity of shewing his military talents, and here on many occasions he displayed his personal bravery and good conduct. He was next sent out to the West Indies, in 1793, under Sir Ralph Abercrombie, where, by his distinguished conduct, he acquired the full confidence of that great General, who selected Moore to accompany him in his expedition to Holland, in 1799, where he was slightly wounded. In the expedition to Egypt, however, he had a more ample field for establishing his character as an excellent Officer. On that occasion, he commanded at the disembarkation of the forces, and his conduct was deemed a master-piece of generalship, of which even Buonaparte himself is said to have declared, that it was worthy of the ablest General that ever lived. At the battle of Alexandria, General Moore was wounded, when leading on the reserve with his usual gallantry; and on his return, his Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood, and the Order of the Bath. Sir John Moore was in active service during almost the whole of the present war. He commanded at Shorncliffe, in Kent, and afterwards succeeded General Fox in the command of the troops at Sicily. The expedition to Sweden, in which he commanded, had not that satisfactory result which was to be wished; but Ministers have uniformly declared, that this proceeded from no misconduct whatever on his part. The transactions of the army in Spain are too recent to call for any recapitulation; and when the plan and motives upon which General Moore acted, are fully laid before the public, we have no doubt that his character will be fully rescued from all those insinuations of tardiness, which some persons seem disposed to attach to it. Of the estimation in which he was held by his superiors we have the following ample and honourable testimony, dated Horse-Guards, 1st February, 1809.

“General Orders.”—The benefits derived to an army from the example of a distinguished commander, do not terminate at his death; his virtues live in the recollection of his associates, and his fame remains the strongest incentive to great and glorious actions. In this view the Commander in Chief, amidst the deep and universal regret which the death of Lieutenant-General Sir John Moore has occasioned, recalls to the troops the military career of that illustrious officer for their instruction and imitation. Sir John, from his youth, embraced the profession with the feelings and sentiments of a soldier; he felt that a perfect knowledge and an exact performance of the humble, the important duties of a subaltern officer, are the best foundation for subsequent military fame; and his ardent mind, while it looked forward to those brilliant achievements for which it was formed, applied itself with energy and exemplary assiduity, to the duties of that station. In the school of regimental duty, he obtained that correct knowledge of his profession so essential to the proper direction of the gallant spirit of the soldier; and he was enabled to establish a characteristic order and regularity of conduct, because the troops found in their leader, a striking example of the discipline, which he enforced on others. Having risen to command, he signalized his name in the West Indies, in Holland, and in Egypt. The unremitting attention with which he devoted himself to the duties of every branch in his profession, obtained him the confidence of Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and he became the companion in arms of that illustrious Officer, who fell at the head of his victorious troops, in an action which maintained our national superiority over the arms of France. Thus Sir John Moore, in an early period, obtained, with general approbation, that conspicuous station, in which he gloriously terminated his useful and honourable life. In a military character, obtained amidst the dangers of climate, the privations incident to service, and the sufferings of repeated wounds, it is difficult to select any one point as a preferable subject for praise; it exhibits, however, one feature so particularly characteristic of the man, and

so important to the best interests of the service, that the Commander in Chief is pleased to mark it with his peculiar approbation. The life of Sir John was spent among the troops. During the season of repose, his time was devoted to the care and instruction of the officer and soldier; in war, he courted service in every quarter of the globe. Regardless of personal considerations, he esteemed that to which his country called him, the post of honour, and by his undaunted spirit, and unconquerable perseverance, he pointed the way to victory. His country, the object of his latest solicitude, will rear a monument to his lamented memory, and the Commander in Chief feels he is paying the best tribute to his fame by thus holding him forth as an example to the army. By order of his Royal Highness the Commander in Chief. H. CALVERT, Adj. Gen."

Those who consider it a desirable thing for a man to have lived respected and honoured for his services, and to have his name handed down for ever as a theme of admiration and gratitude with posterity; must cease to lament the fate of a man, whom history will record along with the sacred names of Epaminondas, Sydney, Wolfe, Abercrombie, and Nelson. And to those who grieve for him, on their country's account, it will be some consolation to think, that his glorious example will be imitated by others, whose latent talents, it is to be hoped, a more perfect system will call forth to the service of the state.

As a mark of respect to the memory of their fellow citizen, the magistrates of Glasgow, and the majority of the inhabitants attended divine worship in mourning on the late fast-day. A subscription has also been opened, for erecting a trophy to his memory in his native city, which already amounts to upwards of two thousand pounds.

RETROSPECT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

The return of the troops from Spain about the beginning of the month filled the kingdom with relations of the sufferings and disasters of the late most unfortunate expedition to that country, the disgrace incurred by which seems to have been not inferior to the loss. We are obliged to correct our assertion that the retreat "was conducted in tolerable order," since it appears to have been nothing less than a precipitate and disorderly flight; and we fear the excesses committed by some of the stragglers have left a very unfavourable impression of the character of British soldiers upon the minds of the inhabitants. As no statement of our losses has hitherto been given to the public by authority, it can at present only be estimated from the vaunts of the enemy, and the melancholy accounts of those who escaped; and these concur in representing them as very serious. The French, too, assert, that the number of troops with which they made the attack at Corunna was greatly inferior to that which repelled it; and this, we understand, was regarded as a fact in the place. The vigour with which a harrassed and dispirited army repulsed their assailants is indisputable; but how far such a necessary exertion of valour deserved public thanks, may reasonably be doubted.

Corunna capitulated soon after its desertion by the English, and obtained favourable terms. It is, indeed, the present object of the conqueror to conciliate a people whom he expects to become his subjects. Of later events in Spain we have but confused and imperfect accounts. General Romana is said with his remaining force to have taken possession of Bayona, a small sea-port near the mouth of the Minho. The bombardment of Saragossa commenced

on January 12th; but, if we may trust Spanish accounts, the besiegers meet with a spirited resistance. On Jan. 13th, a division of the Duke of Infantado's army, under General Venegas, was defeated with considerable loss. The Duke afterwards retreated towards Valencia, followed by the French. General Reding is likewise said to have sustained a defeat near Tarragona. Meanwhile, according to Spanish information, a strong spirit of resistance to the invaders prevails in various parts, and even the northern part of the peninsula is by no means subdued, bodies of armed men still maintaining themselves in the mountains of Asturias. Madrid is also in a very unquiet state, the populace carrying on hostilities by secret assassinations, which are become very formidable to the French, and will probably occasion severe measures of retaliation. In this state of things Napoleon has suddenly returned to Paris, with the purpose, it is reported, of proceeding to Germany. Various conjectures are afloat respecting his further designs.

Portugal, by the last accounts, was not yet entered by the French, and levies had been made for the defence of the country, from which little will be expected by those who know the character of the nation. The English troops left at Lisbon have embarked for Cadiz, to the great displeasure of the inhabitants, whose sense of this desertion has been recently shewn by a riotous seizure of the effects of the English ambassador as they were conveying on ship-board.

Advices from Constantinople, dated Dec. 10th, state, that tranquillity is restored in that capital, and that the Sultan has promised an amnesty to the mutinous Janissaries—that is, they have gained their point. A body has been publicly exposed as that of Mustapha Bairactar. In the meantime the Wahabees have become very formidable; they have taken Damascus, threaten Aleppo, and have summoned Bagdat. Some bloody contests have occurred between the Austrian and Turkish Croats on their respective borders.

Their Prussian Majesties are (or have been) at Petersburg. Several persons in civil and military posts in Prussia have been apprehended on the charge of treacherous conduct in the French invasion.

At home the public feelings on account of disaster and mismanagement have been singularly suspended, by an extraordinary scene exhibited in the House of Commons, which has served during the greatest part of this month for one of those topics of general interest that in this country occasionally absorb all other considerations. On the motion of Mr. Wardle, the House of Commons on Feb. 1st resolved itself into a committee to enquire into the conduct of the Duke of York as commander in chief, touching the disposal of commissions in the army. The ground of this enquiry was the discovery of a traffic that had been carried on by a late mistress of the Duke's, of the name of Clarke, for the exertion of her supposed influence in obtaining military promotions. The object must doubtless have been regarded by the House as of the highest national importance, since it was suffered to occupy almost the whole of its attention for three weeks, at a time when there were so many other momentous points waiting for discussion. Fuller houses were probably never known than those attending upon the long and minute examinations of persons of both sexes, several of a description rarely seen at the bar of a legislative assembly, and whose answers often conducted more to the entertainment, than corresponded with the dignity,

of

of that body. The main point of the enquiry was, whether the Duke himself had any knowledge of, or participation in, these transactions. The examinations closed on the morning of the 23d; but the House has not yet made its determination on the subject.

In the House of Lords, on Feb. 17th, Lord Grenville, after a very forcible speech on the evils which had been the result of the orders in council respecting foreign trade, moved an address to his Majesty for the purpose of re-establishing commercial intercourse with America. The orders were defended by the ministerial Lords, apparently more faintly than they were attacked. On a division, the motion was rejected by 115 against 70.

In the House of Commons, on Feb. 21 (in an interval of the examinations) Lord Henry Petty introduced a motion expressive of disapprobation of the convention of Cintra. Some embarrassment occurred to the Ministry on account of a similar disapprobation expressed in his Majesty's speech; on a division, however, the motion was lost by 203 to 153.

On Feb. 24, Mr. Ponsonby made a motion for an inquiry into the conduct of the war in Spain. It produced an interesting debate, but was defeated by the ministry, who divided 220 to 127.

MONTHLY COMMERCIAL REPORT.

We mentioned in our last Report the sailing of the East India Company's ships Warren Hastings, Lord Melville, True Briton, Neptane, Cumberland, Scaleby Castle, Cuffinells, and Henry Addington, under convoy of his Majesty's ship *Clarinde*; they have since, however, returned to port, to repair the damages they had sustained in consequence of the violence of the weather at the time of their departure: they are now, again, ready to proceed on their voyage, and are expected to sail in the course of a few days. Several of the West India fleet which sailed from Cork on the 22d ult. have also been obliged to put back; but we have not heard that any have been lost.

The commercial treaty which is now carrying on between our Ambassador at the Brazilian court and the Government of that country, is we understand founded on a basis that is likely to contribute equally to the interests of both parties: thus while every fair and reasonable encouragement will be given to our trade, the Government and the people of that country may expect to derive such advantages as are usually the result of a liberal and enlightened policy. In the meantime a new tariff has been established at Rio Janeiro, which considerably reduces the valuation at which British goods had previously been rated, and which is consequently tantamount to a diminution of the import duties, as they are charged *ad valorem*. A new warehousing system is said to have been also in contemplation when the last accounts came away, and that it was to be framed on a principle similar to our own.

In the meantime we are glad to find his Majesty's Ministers have issued an order for taking off the duties on the exportation of all property belonging to Portuguese subjects warehoused in Great Britain. An Order in Council has also been issued with respect to the duties on the exportation of goods the produce of other countries in amity with Great Britain, and from which British ships are not excluded, thereby suspending in that respect the operation of the Acts of Parliament founded on the Orders in Council of November 1807: this is an important alteration in the system on which those Orders were founded, and appears to have been rendered necessary by the state of our relations with Portugal, Spain, and the Spanish colonies.

It would seem from an official notice published at Antwerp a few weeks ago, that the French Government have been induced to admit of some modifications in their decree of September last, which prohibited the introduction of any colonial produce from Holland into France; the notice, above alluded to, declares that such produce will be admitted, provided it be accompanied with a certificate of origin as originally prescribed.

The Act for the more effectual enforcement of the Embargo Laws is stated to have passed on the 7th January. One of its clauses directs that the owners of all vessels which were then loaded should be obliged to reland their cargoes, or give good security, in six times their value, that they would not proceed to a foreign port. Notwithstanding these restrictions, however, several vessels have been successful in eluding them, and have, within these few weeks, contrived to find their way into British ports, freighted with large quantities of cotton. These supplies have had the effect of materially reducing the price of that article in the London and Liverpool markets: samples, equal in quality to such as had been previously sold as high as 3s. 3d. per lb. produced only 2s. 7d.; and another sort, called bouds, which had before yielded 2s. 6d. and 2s. 8d. did not afterwards sell for more than 2s. Many of these cargoes are said to have been insured at Lloyd's previously to their sailing from America; this evasion of the Embargo Laws would therefore appear to have been no very sudden or unpremeditated act on the part of the ship owners.

We do not, however, learn that any considerable supply of flax-seed has been received by these vessels: this article has for a long time been very much wanted by the linen-manufacturers of Ireland, and its price has in consequence advanced to so great a height, that meetings have been talked of in those parts of the country which are chiefly interested in the manufacture of that article, for the purpose of petitioning the Legislature to repeal the late Orders in Council so far as they affect our trade with America.

Amidst the general interruption to commerce which the state of political affairs in Europe has occasioned, few countries have felt its effects more than Russia; few, however, of its ports appear to have suffered less severely than Archangel. By the last return it would appear that, during the year 1808, one hundred and twenty-five vessels had sailed from that port for the following places, exclusively of those which had sailed for this country under neutral colours; they are as follows: To Norway, 81; Varel, 1; Davis's Straits, 1; Holland, 12; Antwerp, 4; Bremen, 3; Lisbon, 1; America, 11; Tonningen, 8; and Embden, 3.

In consequence of the very great advance in the price of all kinds of timber, particularly in that of deals, British oak is now getting much into use amongst our builders, as it can be procured at a much lower rate. The following are the present prices of timber: American plank, from 17l. to 22l. per load; Memel fir, from 15l. 15s. to 16l.; and English oak, from 10l. to 16l. per load. Memel deals sell as high as 56l.; and American do. 50l. per hundred. Petersburg deals have been very scarce for a long time, and there are now but very few, if any, in the market.

The exorbitant prices which are now demanded for fine woollen cloths have already had the effect of inducing many respectable persons to adopt the resolution of wearing only the narrow cloths, which are not only considerably cheaper, but are also of a durable quality. We shall be happy to find this plan generally adopted, not only as it will give encouragement to the produce of our own island, but as it will be the means of breaking down a monopoly amongst the dealers in foreign wool.

The following goods are announced for sale by the East India Company on Thursday the 30th March, prompt 30th June following: 228,000 lbs. Company's cinnamon, 12 lbs. oil of ditto, 92,000 lbs. nutmegs, 100 lbs. distilled oil of ditto, and 15 chests of opium. They have also declared for sale, on Monday the 6th March, 1809, prompt 16th June following, the under-mentioned quantities of tea: Bohea, 300,000 lbs.; Congou and Campoi, 2,350,000 lbs.; Pekoe and Souchong, 200,000 lbs.; Singlo and Twankay, 750,000 lbs.; Hyson Skin, 100,000 lbs.; and Hyson, 300,000 lbs.—making a total of 4,000,000 lbs.

Sugars have rather declined since our last. Rum and coffee continue at nearly the same prices.

PRICE

PRICE OF STOCKS.

3 per Cent. reduced	- - - - -	68½ to 8
3 per Cent. Cons.	- - - - -	67½ ¼
4 per Cent.	- - - - -	83½ 4-8½
5 per Cent. Navy	- - - - -	99½ ½
Bank Long Annuities	- - - - -	18 11-16½
Imp. 3 per Cent. Ann.	- - - - -	67-66½
Omnium	- - - - -	1½ ¼ prem.
India Stock	- - - - -	184½
India Bonds	- - - - -	9-10 prem.
Exchequer Bills	- - - - -	9-12 prem.
Consols for Ac.	- - - - -	67½ ½

The Average Prices of Navigable Canal Shares, Dock Stock, Fire-Office Shares, &c. in FEB. 1809; at the Office of Mr. Scott, 28, New Bridge-street, London.

The Erewash Canal, 603l. 15s. per share, dividing 37l. 10s. nett per annum.—Melton Mowbray, 131l., dividing 7l. 10s. per cent.—Leicester, 166l., dividing 10l. nett.—Grantham, 64l., dividing 4l. nett.—Leeds and Liverpool, 182l., dividing 8l. nett.—Monmouthshire, 106l. to 107l. 10s., dividing 5l. nett.—Grand Junction, 132l. to 133l., dividing 4l.—Wilts and Berks, 28l.—Kennet and Avon, 23l. to 23l. 10s.—Ashby de la Zouch, 21l.—Lancaster, 17l., with a dividend of 1l. per share.—West India Dock, 169l. to 175l. per cent.—London Dock, 118l. to 118l. 10s.—East India Dock, 125l. 10s.—Rock Assurance, 5s. per share prem.—East London Water Works, 46l. to 47l. prem.—Covent Garden New Theatre, subscription, 31l. 10s. per share premium.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY.

Of the ten districts, the Isle of Ely seems to have suffered most; nor is it probable that the water will be drained off in time for the present seed season, which, indeed, is too much the case elsewhere.

The wetness of the lands, in consequence of the sudden thaws and rains, has affected the wheats considerably, and upon cold and exposed soils they look thin and unhealthy; the land, too, from the same cause, is unusually backward as to its fitness for bean-planting.

Turnips and the generality of cattle-crops are much injured by the weather, and it is supposed they will scarcely last beyond mid April in any part. Potatoes and carrots were a plentiful crop, but unfortunately few farmers can be induced to have recourse to them as food for cattle, where they really can be grown to advantage, although, out of all comparison, superior to turnips.

It is said, much flax would have been sown this season, but for the excessive price of the seed, on account of the unfortunate situation of public affairs.

Fat and lean stock somewhat shorter in the country markets, and, by consequence, dearer. The price of mutton and lamb will probably be affected still more by the late great losses, and also the price of wool, already much enhanced. Cattle have required very considerable supplies of food in the late critical season; and from the dearness of hay, corn, and oil cake, the number stalled is not nearly so great as the demand would warrant. Molasses is generally used by the London feeders, and wherever it can be readily obtained, as it always occasionally has been within memory. It is fervently to be hoped that our exports of hay and corn are at an end, since they are so much wanted, and turn to so much better account at home.

Smithfield. Beef, 5s. to 6s. Mutton, 5s. to 6s. 4d. Veal, 5s. to 8s. Lamb, 1s. to 1s. 6d. per lb. Pork, 7s. to 7s. 4d. Bacon, 6s. 8d. Irish do. 46s. per cwt. Fat, 6s. 6d. to 7s. Skins, 15s. to 35s.; dearer from high price of wool.

FROM

FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.

The rapid thaw and immense quantity of wet which followed in the early part of last month, so inundated the lands, as to preclude for a while the possibility of ploughing for and sowing the various kinds of spring corn, till more favourable weather sufficiently dries the soil. The young crops of wheat, rye, and tares have, from the violence of the rains, particularly on hilly situations, been much injured by the mould being washed away from the roots of the grain and leaving the crops thin and scanty upon the ground. On dry level lands much less damage has been done. From the same causes the young clovers, &c. have suffered considerably, the roots perishing from a continuance of chilling moisture.

The injury done to the turnip-crops has been in some districts much less than might have been expected. In the fen counties, particularly in the Isle of Ely, great damage has been done, many of the levels being flooded by the breaking of the banks, destroying the wheat crops, and preventing the possibility of sowing spring corn this year, many of the lands being now several feet under water.

From the deplorable state of the roads, fat cattle and sheep, particularly the latter, have not been known for several winters past to have suffered so much as they have recently done on their journey to Smithfield, shrinking considerably in their tallow and carcase, to which causes the late advance in the prices of butchers' meat may be attributed.

PRICE OF GRAIN.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

SCOTLAND.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat	92	7	81	6	
Rye	61	10	52	0	
Barley	45	8	57	5	
Oats	32	11	29	3	
Beans	63	11	53	5	
Pease	63	5	55	6	
Oatmeal	50	4	26	0	
Bigg	—	—	33	3	